

**USING *PICTURE CUBE* AS A MEDIA IN TEACHING WRITING TO
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

PAPER

**Submitted as a partial fulfillment of requirements to obtain the Strata One
degree (S1) in the English Department of FBS UNP**



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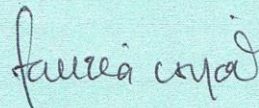
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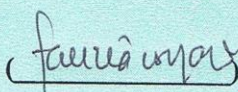
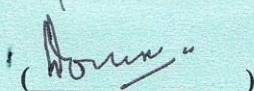
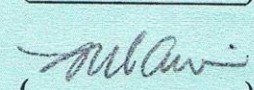
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Demikianlah pernyataan ini saya buat dengan penuh kesadaran dan rasa tanggung jawab sebagai anggota masyarakat ilmiah.

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ABSTRAK

Rita, Novia. 2013. **Using Picture Cube As A Media In Teaching Writing To Elementary School Students.** *Paper*. Padang: Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni, Universitas Negeri Padang.

Dalam makalah ini didiskusikan pengajaran *writing* melalui penggunaan *Picture cube* kepada siswa sekolah dasar. Pada *Picture cube* terdapat enam gambar yang berbeda yang di tempelkan pada *cube* dengan topik *pet animal*. Dalam penggunaannya, *Picture cube* itu di putarkan dari satu siswa ke siswa yang lain dalam satu kelompok yang beranggotakan 6 siswa. *Cube* di putar dalam hitungan waktu 60 detik dan siswa memilih satu gambar untuk kelompok satu dan seterusnya. Apabila kelompok satu mendapatkan gambar tentang *cat*, maka mereka harus mengerjakan *writing activity* yang ada pada *students sheet round 1* tentang *cat*, demikian seterusnya. Setelah selesai dilanjutkan dengan round 2, siswa diminta kembali memutar *cube* seperti activity 1 untuk menentukan topik apa yang akan di buat masing-masing kelompok. Setelah selesai, siswa diminta untuk mengerjakan tugas di round 3. Di round ini siswa tidak memutar *cube* karena hanya ada satu topik untuk semua siswa dengan tingkat kesulitan yang berbeda dengan round 1 dan 2. Setelah selesai, siswa diminta mengumpulkan *student sheet* untuk di koreksi.

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The writer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN

ABSTRAK.....	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

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

CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. The Nature of Writing	5
B. Teaching Elementary School Students	6
1. Characteristic of Elementary School Students	6
2. Teaching Writing to Elementary School Students	8
C. Writing Material at KTSP	11
D. Picture Cube As A Media.....	13
1. The Nature of Media.....	13
2. Picture Cube As A Media	14

CHAPTER III USING PICTURE CUBE AS A MEDIA IN TEACHING WRITING TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Applying Picture Cube As A Media in Teaching English

A. Preparation	18
B. Using Picture Cube in Classroom	20
Step to Use Picture Cube	39
C. The Advantages of Using Picture Cube As A Media in Teaching Writing to Elementary School Students	30

CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusions	32
B. Suggestions	33

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

In recent years, English has become a subject that must be studied by students at school and has been introduced to all schools and educational levels in Indonesia, from the elementary school up to university level. In English, there are four skills that have to be mastered by the students, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Writing as a part of the language skills must be learned maximally by the students.

Although writing is important, writing is a difficult subject for students. It is because writing is a complex process. As state by Ghaith (2002), writing is a complex process that allows writers to explore thoughts and ideas, and make them visible and concrete. Because of the complexity of writing, it is difficult to ask the students to write. *First*, students are lack of vocabulary. The development of vocabullary is crucial and need to support in order students success in learning writing skill. But, unfortunately the development of vocabulary are very limited. Eventhought students a familiar with things around them for example, television, chair, table, mirror and so on, they do not know how to spell in English.

Second, students are lack of idea because they have not yet read many texts and have many life experiences. So, it makes students get difficulties in organizing and developing their ideas. It has a relation with students who have limited vocabulary. Students will be able to understand texts they read if they

know lot of the words. But, when students have limited vocabulary, automatically students do not interested to read a book or text. Even they read, may be just read without knowing the meaning of the text. That is why it is hard for students to produce an idea in another language, especially in English. And also, students cannot compare their own idea with other sources without reading many text. They have problem to arrange their idea and complete it through written language.

The last, students are still in cognitive skill development. They are in concrete operational stage where as Piaget says, they need some media to help them to make the abstract concept become concrete or real. They know how the bear looks like because they have shown it through the real thing. It can be picture or realia. But, it is different when teacher ask students to write in abstract. It is hard for them to describe and explain it. It means that students get difficulties to share their ideas through written language while their cognitive skill is still developing. Students need a real thing such as realia, media, picture and so on.

The problems faced by the students above have to be paid attention by the teachers. It is important for the teachers to help students to learn writing. One of the ways to help students is by providing interesting media. It allows teacher to create a good media in the classroom and enjoyable learning experience for students. The media itself can be found as pictures, cards, video, and so forth. Teacher should be able to determine which media will be

used and effectively support the learning process. Furthermore, teacher has to make sure that the media will increase the students' interest to the lesson and help them in learning.

From many kinds of media mentioned above, Picture cube is one good media to use in teaching writing. Using Picture cube in teaching writing to elementary school students has been widely applied throughout the world. There are many kinds of cube that can be easily found in Indonesia, like Story Cubes, Bio Cubes, Mystery Cubes, Alphabet Cubes and else. One of the most familiar cubes to students is Picture cube; it can be used in writing activity where students see and arrange the sentences based on the picture on the cube. It can help students easy to write the words or sentences. The students do is only arranging word by word in a good sentence based on the picture. This activity can be a challenge for them to complete and finish their work earlier.

This cube can be taught in elementary school. To make variations and can be use in teaching language, the cube can be complete by adding some pictures in every parts of it. Furthermore, this cube is designed with different theme. A set of theme can be about cartoon character, animal, fruit, plant, human being and so forth.

This set of picture cube can be perfectly used by the teacher in writing activities in the elementary school classroom. The various thematic sets of cube can be used to any writing material in the elementary school. In addition, learn writing by playing Picture cube allows students to move around and actively involved in the lesson. Therefore, by using Picture cube as a media in

teaching writing to elementary school students, it is expected that students will enjoy learning writing and can easily understand the writing material.

1.2 Limitation of the Problem

This paper only focuses the discussion on the use of Picture Cube in teaching writing to elementary school students.

1.3 Formulation of the Problem

The formulation of the problem is “How is Picture Cube used in teaching writing to elementary school students?”

1.4 Purpose of the Paper

The main purpose of this paper is to describe how the teacher can use Picture Cube in teaching writing to elementary school students. Moreover, it is also expected that the elementary school teacher can use this as an alternative media to be applied in the classroom, in order to engage and motivate the students.