

**USING *PLEASE* (PICK, LIST, EVALUATE, ACTIVATE, SUPPLY, END)
STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING THE TEACHING OF WRITING A
DESCRIPTIVE TEXT AT THE FIRST GRADE OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

PAPER

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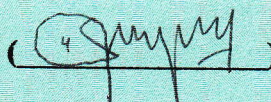
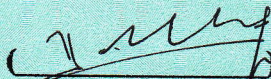
HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN MAKALAH

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Using PLEASE (Pick, List, Evaluate, Activate, Supply, End) Strategy for
Improving the Teaching of Writing a Descriptive Text at the First Grade of
Junior High School

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ABSTRAK

Liza, Mona. 2013. “Using PLEASE (Pick, List, Evaluate, Activate, Supply, End) Strategy for Improving the Teaching of Writing a Descriptive Text at the First Grade of Junior High School”. *Makalah*. Padang: Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Bahasa dan Seni, Universitas Negeri Padang.

Makalah ini membahas tentang salah satu strategi yang dapat digunakan dalam pengajaran menulis teks deskriptif yaitu *PLEASE (Pick, List, Evaluate, Activate, Supply, End) strategy*. Guru dapat menerapkan strategi ini kepada siswa untuk memperbaiki kemampuan mereka dalam menulis dan mengembangkan ide-ide dalam teks deskriptif. Dengan strategi ini siswa tahu bagaimana cara menulis yang tepat dan mengembangkan ide-ide yang didapatnya. Maksud dari strategi PLEASE itu sendiri adalah pertama *Pick*, siswa memilih topik yang akan ditulisnya, sesuai dengan tujuan untuk siapa dia menulis atau siapa pembaca karangannya tersebut, dan memilih format yang tepat untuk memulai tulisannya. Kedua *List*, siswa diminta untuk membuat daftar ide-ide dari topik yang akan dibuatnya. Ketiga *Evaluate*, siswa mengevaluasi apakah ide-ide yang didapatnya sudah tepat dan menentukan cara yang tepat untuk menyusun ide-ide tersebut. Ke empat *Activate*, memulai menulis paragraph dengan membuat kalimat topik sebagai dasar teks. Kelima *Supply*, siswa diminta untuk membuat kalimat pendukung dari kalimat topik atau paragraph pendukung dalam sebuah teks. Dan yang terakhir *End*, guru mengingatkan siswa untuk menyelesaikan tulisannya dan mengevaluasi hasil kerjanya.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

ABSTRAK	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
A. Background of the Problem	1
B. Limitation of the Problem	3
C. The Formulation of the Problem	4
D. The Purpose of the Paper	4
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
A. Writing	5
1. Definition of Writing	5
2. The Importance of Writing	6
B. Teaching Writing	8
C. Teaching Writing at Junior High School	11
D. Descriptive Text	13
1. Definition of Descriptive Text.....	13
2. Types of Descriptive Text	13
3. The Generic Structure of Descriptive Text.....	14
4. The Lexicogrammatical Features of Descriptive Text	14
E. PLEASE strategy	15
F. Teaching Writing by Using PLEASE Strategy	16
CHAPTER III DISCUSSION	
A. Teaching Preparation	20
B. The Procedure in Using PLEASE Strategy to Teach	
Writing Descriptive Text	21
1. Pre-teaching Activity	22

2. Whilst-teaching Activity	22
3. Post-teaching Activity	27
C. The Advantages of Using PLEASE Strategy	27
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS	
A. Conclusions	29
B. Suggestions	30
BIBLIOGRAPHY	31
APPENDIX 1	33
APPENDIX 2	37

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Writing is the skill that is used to express the feeling, ideas and opinions in written form. People also use writing to communicate in their daily activity. In this modern era, most people use writing to communicate by using modern technology, for example, e-mail, short text message in hand phone, and chatting in social media. So that, writing is an important skill in helping people to communicate each other.

Writing is one of the important skills that should be taught to junior high school students as stated in the curriculum of 2006. Based on the curriculum the students should be able to communicate with others in spoken and written form. In the curriculum, the students should be able in using writing language and the rhetorical steps in writing short simple essay to interact in their daily life

In the curriculum 2006, it tells that there are several texts which are taught to the junior high school students. The texts can be classified into transactional texts, functional texts, and monolog texts. At junior high school, the monolog texts that they have to master are procedure, descriptive, recount, narrative, and report. These kinds of texts should be mastered by the students both in spoken and written communication. In the curriculum 2006 also state that, the students in the first grade

of junior high school should be able to write two kinds of texts, namely descriptive and procedure.

Based on the observation during students teaching program before, it was found that there were some students lack ability in writing descriptive text for the first grade students at junior high school. For examples, the students are lack of vocabulary that make them hard to generate their idea. In writing a descriptive text, the students should also generate an idea and get an object to be described. They should also develop that idea to become one or more paragraphs that needs much vocabulary. When the students have lack of vocabulary it will make them hard to start writing the first sentence and also make them confuse to develop their idea.

Other problems that make writing a descriptive text become hard for the students is the teacher does not use an interesting strategy in teaching writing. The teacher merely focuses on the theory and spends the time in the class to explain the descriptive text. It makes the students not interested to the lesson, so that they do other activities that are not related to the lesson. The situation in the classroom becomes noisy and the students do not get a good atmosphere in the classroom.

In making the students active and good in writing the descriptive text, the students should get more exercises. The teacher should not give them the same exercises in teaching writing, for example, the teacher asks the students to copy a paragraph or order jumbled sentences become a good paragraph. That exercises will not help the students to find their own idea and write the text independently.

From the problems above, the teacher should teach the students using a good writing strategy. One of the strategies that the teacher can use in teaching writing descriptive text is PLEASE strategy. This strategy can help the students to collect their own ideas and develop those ideas become a descriptive text. PLEASE is an acronym from six steps strategy in writing, those are, Pick, List, Evaluate, Activate, Supply and End. The steps are: Pick a topic, the audience, and the appropriate format in writing, list ideas about the topic, evaluate if the list is complete, and then plan the best way to organize the ideas, activate the paragraph with a topic sentence or introduction and start writing, supply their ideas into one or more paragraph, and end their writing and evaluate their work. So this strategy can help the students to start their writing and also help them to generate their idea in writing descriptive text.

B. Limitation of the Problem

To produce a good writing of descriptive text, the students are required to explore their ideas about what should be written. The students need a good strategy that can stimulate their ideas in writing process. The problem of this paper is limited to discussion on applying PLEASE strategy to teach writing a descriptive text to the students of junior high school at the first grade.

C. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the explanation above, the problem can be formulated as follows:

“How does the teacher use PLEASE strategy in teaching writing a descriptive text at Junior High School?”

D. The Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of this paper is to explain the process of teaching writing a descriptive text by using PLEASE strategy. By using this strategy, it is hoped that it can be an alternative way to increase the ability of students of Junior High School in writing a descriptive text especially to help the students in generating ideas in writing.