

SURAT PERNYATAAN

Yang bertandatangan dibawah ini:

Nama : Fitri Khoirun Nisa

NIM : D35205004

Jurusan : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris

Fakultas : Tarbiyah

Judul Skripsi : Teaching Descriptive Writing by Using Photos as Media to the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Jati Agung Taman Sidoarjo

Menyatakan bahwa karya ilmiah ini asli hasil pekerjaan saya sendiri dan sepanjang pengetahuan penulis tidak berisi materi yang ditulis orang lain sebagai persyaratan penyelesaian study di perguruan tinggi ini maupun di perguruan tinggi lain, kecuali pada bagian tertentu yang penulis gunakan sebagai acuan dengan mengikuti tatacara dan etika penulisan karya ilmiah yang lazim.

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Penulis

Fitri Khoirun Nisa

In our country, English is a foreign language which is taught from kindergarten to university or college. It is understandable since the government decides English as compulsory subject taught in school. Moreover, they have realized that mastering English will help them and their generation to get better in future.

Being a compulsory subject, English should be well mastered by the students as an international language. They are expected to be able to read, speak, listen and write in English. In the sense that they are not only able to create English sentence grammatically, but they are also expected to create discourse grammatically as well. This statement shows that writing is an important skill for students. In the newest curriculum or in the 2007 curriculum, writing is given more attention in English than the latest curriculum which emphasis on reading skill. This changing is giving more chances to students to have adventures with the language, to take any risks and to go beyond what has been taught by their teacher. When the students write, they become involved with the language, themselves and their readers. This situation leads into an everlasting learning since the students do the activity by themselves.

Basically, the aim of teaching English is to make the students be able to master four language skills namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. Among the four language skills, writing is considered to be the difficult skill in learning English. It is supported by Richards who states that there is no doubt that

effectiveness of using pictures in teaching writing. There are two previous studies about the use pictures as media of teaching descriptive writing. The first previous study is by Ika entitled “ Using Situational Picture as an Alternative Media in Writing Descriptive Text at the Eighth Grade of Junior High School “. In her research, she took some observation in order to find out the implementation of the pictures in the teaching learning process and she also conducted the data of students' interest when they use these media.

Another research about the use of pictures as teaching media has been done by Nuril entitled “The effect of Using Situational Picture as Material of Senior High School Students' Ability to Write Descriptive Text in the Senior High School. In her research, she conducted the data by doing experimental research, because she wanted to know how the teacher used situational pictures in the teaching learning writing of descriptive text and also to find out the improvement of students writing ability after the picture is used as materials in teaching learning writing of descriptive text.

Overall, the writer thesis will be different from the two above. The writer focuses on the use of individual pictures as the teaching media to teach descriptive text in order to motivate the students to create better descriptive text and to know their descriptive writing after being taught by using individual picture.

In this study, the teacher and the researcher had collaboration with conducted some meetings in order to implement the media. In this school English class was held fourth a week, every Wednesday and Thursday as English lesson, Wednesday as English conversation and Saturday as English club. Every meeting was for 80 minutes (2 x 40 minutes / meeting).

Besides consideration of the government states that descriptive text which have to be taught in this level. The researcher choose eighth grade students because they were usually less motivated and their teacher seldom used teaching aids in teaching English, especially in teaching writing skill.

In addition, the eighth grade students were still young and interested in playing with fun. As long as it is conducted in their environment the research can run smoothly and effectively.

C. The Research Setting

The setting of the research will be conducted at SMP Jati Agung. It is located on Jalan Anggrek No. 27 Wage, Taman, Sidoarjo. This school provides only for Junior High School. This school is underlying Al Qodiri Social Foundation which has branches in East Java. This school was Islamic full-day school. This school is very strategic and easy to reach by everyone because the location is on the main road and it is very crowded.

b. Instructional Material and Media

In conducting this research, the researcher prepares the instructional material and media which are relevant with the topic for descriptive writing. The researcher takes the material from the students' compulsory book, text book and other available sources which are selected. The instructional materials are appropriate with the topics that are given and the students' level. The media is used by the teacher are interesting, fun, colorful and supporting the teaching and learning process in descriptive writing.

c. Lesson Plan

The lesson plan is designed by the researcher will consist of these following items:

- Course identity
- Time allotment
- Learning objectives
- Procedure of teaching and learning activities
- Instructional material
- Assessment and evaluation

All the lesson plans available in appendix.

d. The Criteria of Success

The criteria of success are set up in order to judge or estimate whether the implementation of the action is effective or not. The criteria of

		Does not communication, no organization and understanding of generic structure [Identification & Description], not enough to evaluate.
CONTENT	30 – 27	Excellent to very good Knowledgeable, complete important ideas and supporting details [many things to describe] relevant to assigned topic.
	26 – 22	Good to average Some knowledge of subject, adequate important ideas, mostly relevant to topic but lacks of details [some things to describe].
	21 – 17	Fair to poor Limited knowledge of subject or lack of important ideas and details [lack of things to describe], inadequate development of topic.
	16 - 13	Very poor Does not show any knowledge of subject, non pertinent or not enough to evaluate.
VOCABULARY	20 – 18	Excellent to very good Sophisticated range, effective word/ idiom form and noun phrases, appropriate adjective, verb and adverbial.
	17 – 14	Good to average Adequate range, occasional errors of word/ idioms and noun phrase, enough adjective, verb and adverbial.
	13 – 10	Fair to poor Limited range, frequent errors of word/ idioms form/noun phrase, lack of adjective, verb and adverbial.
	9 – 7	Very poor Essentially translation, little knowledge of English vocabulary, idioms, word form/noun phrase, adjective, verb and adverbial not enough to evaluate.

LANGUAGE USE	25 – 22	Excellent to very good Effective simple construction, few errors of agreement, tense [Simple present tense & adjective phrases], number, word order/ function, article, pronoun, preposition.
	21 – 18	Good to average Minor problem in simple construction, few errors of agreement, tense [Simple Present tense & Adjective Phrase], number, word order/ function, articles, pronouns, prepositions but meaning seldom obscured.
	17 – 11	Fair to poor Major problems in simple construction, frequent errors of negotiation, agreement, tense [Simple Present tense & adjective phrase], number, word order/ function, article, pronoun, preposition confused.
	10 - 5	Very poor Virtually no mastery of sentence construction rules and tense [Simple Present tense & Adjective Phrase], dominated by errors, does not communicate, not enough to evaluate.
MECHANICS	5	Excellent to very good Demonstrate mastery of convention, few errors of spellings, punctuation [comma in adjective], capitalization and paragraphing.
	4	Good to average Occasional errors of spelling, punctuation [comma in adjective], capitalization, paragraphing and meaning not obscured.
	3	Fair to poor Frequent errors of spelling, punctuation [comma in adjective], capitalization, paragraphing, poor handwriting & meaning.
	2	Very poor No mastery of conventions, dominated by

the teacher checked the student's attendance. Next, the teacher started the lesson by asking them about the kinds of texts that they knew. Some of them were able in mentioning some texts, including descriptive texts were for, about the generic structure and its function. Moreover, they knew the tense used in descriptive text although few students made some mistakes in mentioning the form of simple present tense.

Having explained the generic structure and linguistic features, the teacher gave an example of descriptive text. She distributed paper which contain of a descriptive text entitled "Kangaroo" and some questions referred on the text. There were two kinds of questions, those were identifying the generic structure and five questions related to the text. The teacher gave the students for about is minutes to read and answer the questions. She went around making sure that every student did the work until they finished their work and discussed together. The next activity was practicing to write such a descriptive text. In this case, the teacher had not used the photos yet. She kept the photos for the following meeting. To determine the object of descriptive text, the teacher divided the students into a group and asked them to make a descriptive text about "Animal. Since it was just a practice, the students could join with their group to write the descriptive text, the teacher decided that two was the minimum paragraphs consisted of identification and description paragraph at least. When the bell rang, the teacher asked the student to submit their writing

and asked the students about the difficulties faced during the teaching and learning process.

In the second meeting, the teacher entered and greeted the students. She checked the student's attendance and the condition of the student's. There was no absent in that day. They, the teacher reviewed the lesson which had been given to the students in the previous meeting. She asked some questions in order to remind the about the descriptive text. She also gave some addition explanation about student's writing composition, generic structure of descriptive text. Referring to the problem faced by the students in the previous meeting, that some of the students could not imagine the animal that they had to describe. In this case, the teacher started to use photos to overcome this problem. The teacher prepared four different photos of "Animals" (see appendix IV). The displaying photos of animals were **Crocodile, Lion, Elephant and Cat**. The teacher determining with animals the students belong to write by using lottery. The teacher distributed the photos based on the lottery was chosen by the students. To make the students could see them well. She also ruled that two were the minimum paragraphs of the text. It had to be consisted of identification and descriptions paragraph at least. The lesson was over right after the bell rang. The teacher asked the students to submit their work.

from the one in the previous meeting. Referring to the problem was faced by the students in reflecting stage, some revisions were done. Student given more time to write a descriptive text and time used to calm the students down was minimized. In this cycle, the teacher chose different topic from the previous meeting. Moreover, the teacher prepared some questions that were used to improve the content of their writing.(see **appendix II**)

Acting: at the third meeting, the teacher conducted the class as same as the previous meetings. She greeted the students, asked their condition and checked their attendance. There was a students who was absent in that day, so there were 29 students who joined the class.

Before started the lesson, the teacher discussed the mistakes which mostly happen in the students' previous writing. Most of them were still confused about the used of simple present tense. So, the teacher started the lesson by explaining about simple present tense such as the function, the forms and the kind of it. Most students seemed to be active in responding the question even tough there were some students became good listener. The teacher also gave some practices in order to sharpen their knowledge of simple present tense. She distributed papers contained 7 jumbled sentences of a descriptive text. Here, the students were asked to rearrange those sentences in a good order. Having finished and discussed the answer together, the teacher asked the students to look at the text and

differentiated which ones the verbal sentences and the nominal sentences were. It was done since they were able to differentiate between them.

The teacher continued it by displaying and distributing single photos for the students. The photos were a picture of “Spongebob”. The reason why the teacher chose it as the object was because it was a familiar cartoon in television. The teacher was sure that the students knew a lot of information about her. In his case, the revision of the first cycle were started to be applied. The teacher asked the students practice to write descriptive composition by using question given by the teacher as a guide in improving their writing. In other words, the students, writing composition had to contain the answer of those questions. Since it was only a practice, it was not an individual work. The students could join with their group.

In the fourth meeting, the teacher did the same way in starting the lesson. There was no student who absent in that day. To start the lesson, the teacher tried to discuss the student’s previous meeting. There were some mistakes related to the misuse of simple present tense. Consequently, the teacher had to explain once again about the use of simple present tense. In order to make them understand, the teacher asked the student to work in group. Then, she displayed and distributed the photos of “Spongebob”. Next, she invited each group to some forward and

the students writing compositions. She asked the students if they had difficulties concerned with adjective phrases. Referred to this problem the teacher explained that there were some orders in adjective phrases. Most of the students had difficulties in memorizing the order and often used comma (,) in mentioning the adjective phrases of a noun. The teacher intended to give explanation and exercise to make them understand. Having given some example in each order, the teacher distributed papers contained eight questions of adjective phrases.

Yet, the teacher asked them to make a group and answered all of questions given. She asked each group to give their answer so that they could write it in the white board. The discussion ran smoothly since every group competitor each other to answer the question. Consequently, the class became noisy and the teacher had them calm down for several items.

In this meeting, the teacher did not give a lot of explanation and exercise in order to reduce the tiresome and boredom faced by the students. She reviewed the lesson that had been explained in the previous cycles it was done to keep them in students' mind and recall their knowledge of descriptive text and its linguistic features.

The sixth meeting of the third cycle was the last meeting of this research. The teacher started the class as same as the previous meeting. She entered the class, greeted and asked their condition and also checked their attendance. There was no student who absent in that day. Since there

was no explanation about the linguistic features anymore, the teacher started to give some comments about their last writing composition. The teacher told them that she was quite satisfied of their work although it had not reached the target of SKM yet. The teacher encouraged the students to be more aware in using simple present tense and adjective phrases.

In making the class to be more fun, the teacher conducted a game to refresh the students mind. It was done outside from the class. They were done this game in the hall of that school. The game was called “Komunikata”. Actually, it was not a new game, the teacher was sure that it could return their motivation back. The rules of this game were quite simple they must be stood in line with their group. Then, the last student who stood in line behind looked the vocabularies which were held by the teacher. After that, the student remembered and said it slowly to their partner until the first student heard and wrote it in a paper. Referred to this situation, the teacher discussing the correct answer and gave the prizes for the winner.

Since, it was really fun and noisy. The teacher had to ask them to be more quiet and calm. They acted as if it had been a long time they did not play and game. Then, the teacher continued the lesson since the students had got their motivation back. The teacher put the photos out. The photos were different from the previous meeting. The topic selected

2. The Discussion of the Implementation of Using Photos to Teach Descriptive Writing

In the implementation of using photos to teach descriptive writing, the researcher found several things that can be noted down from the result of the observation checklist every cycle. In the first cycle the result of the observation checklist was quiet good. There just some items which showed unsuccessful activities planned by the teacher. The teacher had not save the time effectively yet. The noisy condition which happened several times made the teacher had difficulties to calm students down. Moreover, the students might have done it to attract the teachers' attention. They could also answer most of the question given by the teacher. They composed and shouted each other. Consequently, there were a lot of time wasted in order to make the class conducive.

In the second cycle, the result of observation checklist was quite satisfactory. It could be seen that time was still became the problem faced by the teacher. The quantity of the noise condition could be minimized than the previous cycle. The teacher had also determined the time available in doing every exercise. In other words, the students did not have much time to make some noise. The other problem which had not been solved yet was the time allocation. The students asked the time to be added because the teacher asked the students to write in very limited time. Consequently, they had bad result in their writing. Yet, the teacher had started to give a guide lines questions to

improve the content of their writing. The results scores gained in this second cycle showed a significant improvement.

In the last cycle, it could be seen that the teacher had done the best so that the indicators required in the observation checklist were filled. The teacher succeeded in saving the time, allocated more time for students to compose their writing and also she could minimize the bore dome and tiresome by conducting game which could refresh their motivation. In the result, the students' scores also showed a great improvement of the students' ability in composing descriptive writing.

D. The influence of using photos on the students' ability to write descriptive texts

1. The result of students' writing composition

Besides the data from the observation checklist, the researches also got addition information about the students' writing compositions was scored in every cycle by using ESL (English as a Second Language) profile. Here, the researcher determined two indicators of the achievement. There were individual and class mastery. In individual mastery, the students were considered mastering the lesson if they had got scores 66 at least. On the other hand, the indicator of class mastery was there were 75 % of all students at least who reach the individual mastery based on the Standar Ketuntasan Minimal (SKM) required by the school.

c. The students opinion about the photos as media

No	A	B	C	D
3	66,6 %	33,3 %	-	-
4	63,3%	35,6%	-	-
5	16,6 %	50%	30%	3,3%
6	16,6 %	16,6%	60%	6,6%

d. The students opinion about the topics

No	A	B	C	D
7	83,3 %	16,6 %	-	-
8	23,3%	66,6%	10%	-

e. The teachers role in the application of the technique

No	A	B	C	D
9	16,6 %	66,6 %	10 %	6,6%
10	16,6%	83,3%	-	-
11	50%	16,6%	26,6%	6,6%

f. The students opinion about the advantages and disadvantages of using photos as media

No	A	B	C	D
12	66,6%	16,6%%	10%	6,6%
13	20 %	60 %	10 %	10%
14	33,3%	50%	16,6%	-
15	56,6%	36,6%	6,6%	-

2. The discussion of questionnaire

In this discussion, the result of questionnaire has been briefly explained the result of the questionnaire will be analyzed based on the

research problem that is going to be discussed. In this part the discussion will be divided into six matters. The first was about the students' responses of English lesson. Based on the result of questionnaire, it could be concluded that most of students liked English lesson, although 16, 6 % or 5 students stated that they rather liked English lesson.

The second was about the students' responses of writing skill, it was showed that 50% of them admitted that they liked writing skill, although 26, 6% or 8 students' rather liked learning writing.

The third was about the students' opinions about the photos were used as media. Based on the result of questionnaire, it could be concluded that the implementation of photos as media in teaching descriptive writing about 66, 6% of the students admitted that the implementation of photos were very easy to be followed. While 63, 3 % of the students admitted that the photos was very interesting technique to be learned in teaching writing. And about 50% of the students said that they liked photos as media in their teaching writing. In addition, most of the students considered that the implementing of photos as media was appropriated and able to help them explore their opinion.

The fourth is about the students' responses of the topics used in photos, the data showed that 83, 3% of the students admitted that the topics were interesting and 66, 6% said that the topics could help the students to participate actively in teaching writing.

The fifth is about the students' responses of the teacher's role in the application of the media, based on the result of the questionnaire, the data showed that there were 66, 6% of the students stated that the teacher could encourage them to be actively in teaching writing by using photos as media, 83, 3% of the students also stated that the teacher of ten corrected their language, when they composed descriptive writing. In addition, there were 50% of the students stated that the teacher always gave a chance for the students to ask any questions related to the topic.

The last is about the students' responses toward the advantages of photos in their writing. After the photos implemented in the class, there were 60% of the students who stated that this media was very necessary in their writing. In addition, there were 50% of the students who admitted that they had a very good progress in their writing ability after the teacher applied this media. And 56,6% of the total students agreed that this media was gave beneficial to improve the students' writing, especially in composed descriptive writing.

Based on the result of the questionnaire above, it could be concluded that the implementation of photos as media has many advantages for the students in improved their writing ability. In addition, the discussion above showed that the students' responses toward the photos were gradually good because the students admitted by themselves that this media was useful for them.

