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Additionally, the researcher also found previous study which is also related to writing. The study is under the title “an Analysis of Plagiarism in Seminar Proposal by Eighth Semester Students of PBI at IAIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya” by Nur Habibah. The researcher focused on the plagiarism in thesis proposal writing. Plagiarism is challenging in academic writing which is difficult to be avoided. Poor reading comprehension on reference can lead the researcher to plagiarism.

Nevertheless, this research has differences with those previous studies. The research by Jairos Gonye focused on students’ weaknesses in academic writing while this research focuses on the difficulties experienced by students. Therefore Gonye analyzed students’ essays to know their weaknesses in writing skills while this research analyses students’ experiences on academic writing to know their difficulties. The research by Gonye and Pineteh focused on the first year undergraduate university students while this research focuses on six semester students who have taken thesis proposal class. This research also has difference with the research by Miclaus. Miclaus found the challenges in extrinsic aspect such as lack of knowledge, bad time management, and lack of motivation while this research analyses students’ challenges from their difficulties in academic writing. The last, the research by Rifa’uddin and the research by Habibah

