

Laporan Penelitian Madya



**STUDENTS' ABILITY IN COMPOSING ENGLISH ESSAYS
AT AL-MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, BIREUEN**

Peneliti

**Khairiah Syahabuddin, M.HSc.ESL., M.TSOL., Ph.D.
NIDN: 2030106901**

**Pembantu Peneliti:
Cut Merak Bulan**

JENIS PENELITIAN	PENELITIAN PENGEMBANGAN DAN TERAPAN
KATEGORI PENELITIAN	PTP NASIONAL
BIDANG ILMU	BAHASA
SUMBER DANA	DIPA UIN AR-RANIRY TAHUN 2017

**PUSAT PENELITIAN DAN PENERBITAN
LEMBAGA PENELITIAN DAN PENGABDIAN KEPADA
MASYARAKAT (LP2M)
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI AR-RANIRY
BANDA ACEH - OKTOBER 2017**

LEMBARAN IDENTITAS DAN PENGESAHAN

1. a. Judul Penelitian : Students' Ability in Composing English Essays at Al-Muslim University, Bireuen, 2017
- b. Jenis Penelitian : Penelitian Madya
- c. Katagori Penelitian : PTP Nasional
- d. Bidang Ilmu yang Diteliti : Bahasa
2. Peneliti/Ketua Peneliti:
 - a. Nama Lengkap : Khairiah Syahabuddin, M.HSc. ESL., M.TSOL., Ph.D.
 - b. Jenis Kelamin : Perempuan
 - c. Pangkat/Gol. : Penata Tk-1 (III/d)
 - d. NIP/NIDN : 196910301996032001/2030106901
 - e. Jabatan Fungsional : Lektor
 - f. Fakultas/Jurusan : Tarbiyah dan Keguruan/
Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
- Anggota Peneliti:
 - a. Nama Lengkap : Cut Merak Bulan
 - b. Jenis Kelamin : Perempuan
 - c. Pangkat/Gol. : -
 - d. NIP/NIDN : -
 - e. Jabatan Fungsional : -
 - f. Fakultas/Jurusan : Tarbiyah dan Keguruan/PBI
- Anggota Peneliti:
 - a. Nama Lengkap : -
 - b. Jenis Kelamin : -
 - c. Pangkat/Gol. : -
 - d. NIP/NIDN : -


- e. Jabatan Fungsional : -
f. Fakultas/Jurusan : Tarbiyah dan Keguruan/PBI
3. Jumlah Peneliti : Dua orang
4. Lokasi Penelitian : Provinsi Aceh
5. Jangka Waktu Penelitian : Empat bulan
6. Biaya Penelitian : Rp 13.197.000,- (tiga belas juta, seratus sembilan puluh tujuh ribu rupiah)

Mengetahui:
Kepala Pusat Penelitian dan
Penerbitan UIN Ar-Raniry
Banda Aceh.

Banda Aceh, 20 Nopember 2017
Peneliti,



Dr. Saifulah, S.Ag., M.Ag.
NIP: 197204062001121001



Khairiah Syahabuddin,
M.HSc. ESL., M.TESOL., Ph.D.
NIP: 196910301996032001

Menyetujui:
Rektor UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh.



Prof. Dr. H. Farid Wajidi Ibrahim, M.A.
NIP: 19610301994031001

ABSTRACT

The present research was conducted to analyse students' ability in paragraph writing at Al-Muslim University. Hence, this research was led to analyze how the students developed ideas in their writing and to explore their capability in academically sound paragraph writing. This research was conducted to one class of the students in academic year 2015 with 22 student-participants. To fulfil the purpose of the research, the researcher employed mix-method. The data were obtained through writing test and questionnaire. The result in this research revealed that the students developed their ideas in different ways. Most of students preferred to develop their ideas by directly elaborate in their paragraph, and the rest preferred to include introductory and closing paragraphs in their writing. The result of the writing test led to the fact that students needed to practice more on exploring their styles and contents of their paragraph writing towards an academically sound paragraph writing. Guided and template that the writing lecturers provide would help the students' paragraph writing more in the future. Furthermore, the result of questionnaire showed that the majority of the students gave positive responses toward their tasks on the paragraph writing. In spite of their awareness on their lack of practices, they felt it important to be able to have a good ability in paragraph writing.

Key words: Paragraph, writing, ESL, university students

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Praise and gratitude we extend to Allah the Almighty, who has given us the strength to complete this research. Shalawat and greetings to Muhammad the Messenger of Allah who has brought knowledge to this world

This research entitled Students' Ability In Composing English Essays (At Al-Muslim University, Bireuen), which we carried out for four months. In this study we have found that those university students have been equipped with certain abilities in writing, however, there were still rooms for improvement.

This research was completed because it was assisted by various parties: rector of university, head of department, lecturers, staff, and students. Our thanks go to to them. We also extends our gratitude to UIN Ar-Raniry through the Research and Publishing Institute which has allocated funds for this education. Hopefully in the future there will be more funds to continue this research.

We hope that the results of this study are useful both theoretically and practically. For the sake of perfection, we hope that all parties can help to improve all the shortcomings of this research. Thank you.

Banda Aceh, 15 November 2016
Researcher,

KHAIRIAH SYAHABUDDIN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background of the Study.....	1
B. Previous Study.....	3
C. Research Questions.....	5
D. The Aim of Study.....	6
E. The Significance of Study.....	6
F. Terminologies.....	7
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	9
A. Writing.....	9
B. Writing Aspects.....	11
C. The Purpose of Writing.....	14
D. Paragraph Writing.....	16
CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH DESIGN	20
A. A Brief of Research Location.....	20
B. Research Method.....	22
C. Population and Sample.....	23
D. Method of Data Collection.....	25
E. Writing Test.....	28
F. Questionnaire.....	31
G. Method of Analysis.....	34
H. Writing Tests Analysis.....	37
I. Questionnaire.....	40

CHAPTER 4: FINDING AND DISCUSSION.....	42
A. Finding	42
1. From the Writing Test.....	46
1. From the Interview.....	50
B. Discussion.....	55
1. On Research Question No. 1.....	56
2. On Research Question No. 2.....	58
CHAPTER 5: SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
A. Suggestions	60
B. Recommendations	62
BIBLIOGRAPHY	64

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- American Journal Experts. (2019). *Paragraph structure*. Retrieved Februari 20, 2019, from AJE Scholar:
<https://www.aje.com/en/arc/editing-tip-paragraph-structure-making-most-your-ideas/>
- Arikunto. (2006). *Prosedur penelitian suatu pendekatan praktek*. Jakarta : PT. Rineka Cipta.
- Basetti, B. (2017). *Learning second language writing system*. Retrieved 20 March 2017 from <http://www.llas.ac.uk/resources/gpg/2662.html>
- Bloor, T. & Bloor, M. (1992). *Given and new information in the thematic organization of text: An application to the teaching of academic writing*. Occasional Papers in Systemic Linguistics, 6(1), 33-43.
- Bryman, A. (2001). *Social research methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Crème, P. & Lea, M. R. (2003). *Writing at university*. Glasgow: Bell and Brain Ltd.
- Creswell, J. W. (2008). *Educational research* (3rd ed.). New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc.
- Cropley, A.J. (Ed). (2019). *Introduction to qualitative research methods* (2nd ed.). Riga, Latvia: Zinātne. doi: 10.13140/RG.2.1.3095.6888
- Danes, F. (1974). *Functional sentence perspective and the organization of the text*. Prague: Publishing House of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.
- Dietsch, B.M. (2003). *Reasoning and writing well: A rhetoric, research guide, and handbook*. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

- Fareed, M., Ashraf, A., & Bilal, M. (2016). ESL learners' writing skills: Problems, factors and suggestion. *Journal of Education and Social Sciences*, 4(2), 81-89.
- Harmer, J. (2007). *How to teach writing*. England: Longman.
- Ivankova, N. V., Creswell, J. W., & Stick, L. S. (2006). Using mixed-methods sequential explanatory design: From theory to practice. *Sage Journal*, 18(1), 3-20.
doi:10.1177/1525822X05282260
- Jacobs, H. L., Zinkgraf, S. A., Wormuth, D. R., Hartfiel, V. F., & Hughey, J. B. (1981). *Testing ESL composition: A practical approach*. Rowley, MA: Newbury House.
- Klimova, B. (2013). Developing thinking skills in the course of academic writing. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Science*, 93, 508-511.
- Knapp, P., & Watkins, M. (2005). *Genre, text, grammar: Technologies for teaching and assessing writing*. Sydney: University of New South Wales Press Ltd.
- Kothari, C. (2004). *Research methodology: Method and techniques*. New Delhi: New Age International Publishers.
- Mugableh, A.I & Khreisat, M.N. (2018). Employing TBL and 3PS learning approaches to improve writing skill among Saudi EFL students in Jouf University. *International Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Translation (IJLLT)*, 2(1).
- Oshima, A & Hogue, A. (1996). *Writing academic English*. New York: Addison Wesley Publishing Company.
- Oshima, A., & Hogue, A. (1999). *Writing academic English* (3rd ed.). New York: Addison Wesley Longman.
- Smalley, R. L. & Ruetten, M. K. (1995). *Refining composition skills: Rhetoric and grammar* (4th ed.). Pacific Grove: Heinle and Heinle Publishers.