

# **THE CONTRIBUTION OF ESSAY WRITING COURSE IN WRITING ESSAYS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**THESIS**

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**FAKULTAS TARBIYAH DAN KEGURUAN  
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**THESIS**

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The Bachelor Degree of Education in English Language Teaching

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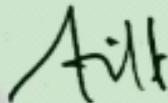
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## SURAT PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN

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**The Contribution of Essay Writing Course in Writing Essays Scholarship  
Application**

Adalah benar-benar karya saya, **kecuali semua kutipan dan referensi yang disebutkan sumbernya**. Apabila terdapat kesalahan dan kekeliruan di dalamnya, maka akan sepenuhnya menjadi tanggung jawab saya.

Demikianlah surat pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya.

Banda Aceh, 21 Juli 2022

Saya yang Membuat Surat Pernyataan,



Aulia Agusdi

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I believe that my success in completing this undergraduate thesis is not only due to myself but by the permission of Allah the Almighty and supported by good people beside me whether it is happiness or sorrow. First, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Mr. Safrul Muluk, S.Ag., M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D. and Mrs. Azizah, S.Ag., M.Pd. for their guidance, enlightenment, motivation, as well as suggestions and constructive comments that have helped me a lot in completing this thesis and also my academic advisor Mrs. Azizah. S.Ag., M.Pd. may Allah's grace and bounty always be bestowed upon them all.

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## **ABSTRACT**

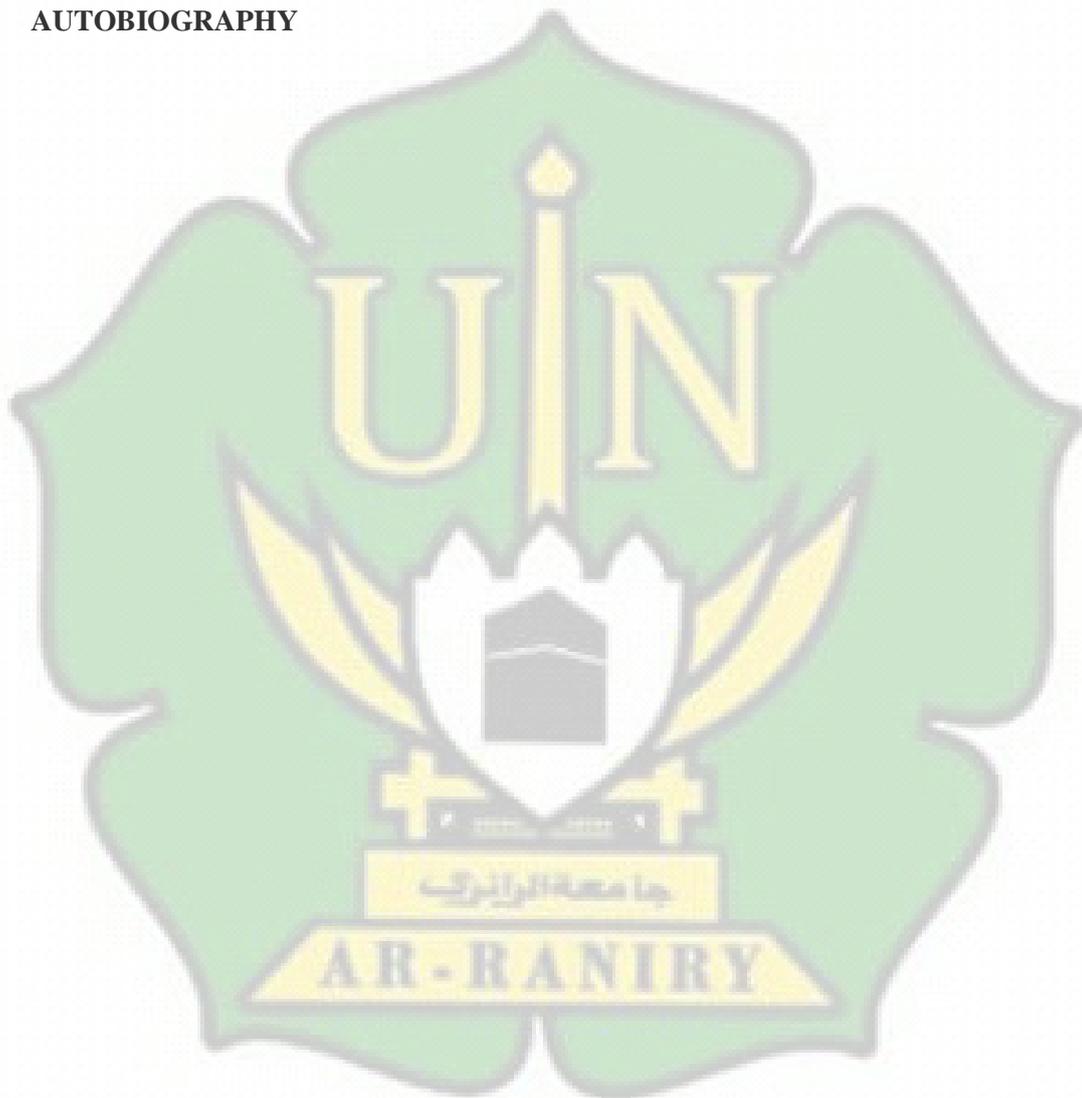
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Writing an essay is an indispensable skill for students, especially in the current globalization era. The ability to write a good essay will provide many advantages in students' academic achievement and opportunity to open the gate to get scholarships both at home and abroad. This study aims to find out student perceptions of the contribution of essay writing courses in writing scholarship application essays. The research participants in this study were 8 participants from the Department of English Language Education at UIN Ar-Raniry who had participated in several scholarship programs with different backgrounds. This research used purposive sampling in selecting participants who meet predetermined criteria. The researcher used qualitative research method using semi-structured interviews via telephone to obtain data. The results in this study revealed that students gained contributions after taking essay writing courses, namely: Acquiring a new knowledge, Improving word choice, Enhancing Coherent and Cohesion, Improving grammar skills, Enhancing ideas development. Furthermore, students also experience difficulties in several aspects of writing scholarship application essays, namely lack of grammar knowledge and difficulty in understanding scholarship provider essay requirements, difficulty in choosing appropriate vocabulary. However, there are several ways to solve the challenges in regard in writing scholarship essay writing. The participant making an outline when writing scholarship essay in order to help them in composing ideas, choosing the appropriate vocabulary or word choice and making essay writing become coherent.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SURAT PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN.....	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	ii
ABSTRACT .....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b> .....	1
A. Background of Study.....	1
B. Research Questions .....	6
C. Research Aims.....	6
D. Research Significances.....	7
E. Terminologies.....	7
<b>CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW</b> .....	9
A. Essay .....	9
a. Definition of Essay.....	9
b. Kinds of Essay .....	10
c. Structure of essay .....	11
d. Principles of writing competency.....	13
e. How to write an essay .....	15
B. Scholarship.....	16
a. Definition of scholarship.....	16
b. Purpose of scholarship .....	17
c. Types of scholarships based on funding sources .....	17
d. Types of scholarships based on financial coverage .....	18
<b>CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD</b> .....	19
A. Research Design.....	19
B. The Population and Sample.....	20
C. Method of Data Collection .....	22
D. Method of Data Analysis.....	23
<b>CHAPTER IV FINDING AND DISCUSSION</b> .....	24
A. Research Finding.....	24
B. Discussion .....	35

<b>CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION</b> .....	39
A. Conclusion .....	39
B. Suggestion .....	40
<b>REFERENCES</b> .....	<b>42</b>
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
<b>AUTOBIOGRAPHY</b>	



## LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1 The Essay Writing/ Writing II Course Grade .....	21
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## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1. Essay Structure .....	12
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## LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix A Appointment Letter of Supervisor
- Appendix B Recommendation Letter from the Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan  
to conduct Field Research
- Appendix C Interview Instrument
- Appendix D Sample from data collection



## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter highlights the background of the study, research question, aims of the study, significance of the study, and terminology.

#### **A. Background of Study**

Writing an essay is an indispensable skill for students, especially in the current globalization era. The ability to write an essay will provide many advantages in students' academic achievement. Fareed et al. (2016) stated that writing has a very important role as an intermediary of knowledge. Writing an essay is a useful thing in spreading the knowledge that we have. By writing an essay, we can also express our ideas to other people so that information and messages can reach the intended party or audience.

A good essay writing skills will provide many benefits in academic and non-academic fields, such as writing theses, job applications, and scholarship application essays. The ability to write good essays will also improve writing skills in other fields such as scientific writing, academic writing, argumentative essays or various other types of English texts (Abbas, 2017). When we learn to write an essay directly and indirectly we will also learn other aspects of writing such as grammar, punctuation, paragraphs so that the knowledge we have will be very useful in writing in other fields.

To apply for both national and international scholarships, applicants are required to write an essay as part of the selection process to test whether the candidate is eligible to receive the scholarship or not. From the essay, the scholarship committee would know how determined the scholarship applicant is to obtain the scholarship, as well as the goals and knowledge possessed by the applicant. The ability to write a good essay is an opportunity to open the gate to get scholarships both at home and abroad. Scholarships that require writing essays such as Beasiswa Unggulan, Djarum Foundation Scholarship, LPDP, Fulbright, Chevening, exchange programs, conferences and many others.

Essay writing poses many problems for many EFL/ESL around the world and is a major challenge for many student (Ahmed, 2010). Many students still have difficulty in writing a good and correct essay. Some other students considered writing essays to be a boring and complicated task. The difficulties experienced by students in writing essays are usually related to the inability to decipher ideas into sentences and paragraphs, difficulties in assembling paragraphs into a unified whole, inability to write using punctuation, grammar and capital letters. Younes and Albalawi (2015) stated that during writing an essay, the students faced some various problems such as punctuation, grammatical and spelling errors.

Actually writing, especially writing an essay is part of a productive skill that must be mastered and honed by every student. Writing an essay is part of the learning process in which students can develop ideas and convey information

clearly and convincingly to the intended party. The ideas conveyed in writing an essay are a process of student creativity in expressing their ideas and conveying them to others.

In writing an essay, it is necessary to master various linguistic components and components outside the language itself which will become the contents of the writing. Both language elements and content elements must be intertwined in such a way as to produce coherent and systematic writing (Lubis, 2017). Then in writing an essay there are two important elements that must be present unity and coherence. Unity is a single idea in a paragraph while coherence is the relationship between one sentence to another or one paragraph to another. So in writing an essay it is necessary to consider these two elements well.

The Essay Writing course in the English Language Education Department of UIN Ar-Raniry aims to improve students' ability in writing good and correct essays. It is expected that students who take essay writing courses are able to apply the knowledge gained so that they can benefit the students themselves in improving student achievement and other uses. In this course, many are taught how to write correctly, including essay definitions, structure, types of essays, grammar, content of essays and others.

In line with the issues raised in this research. There are several related studies that have been conducted. In a study by Ibnian (2011) entitled "Brainstorming and Essay Writing in EFL Class" said that the use of the brainstorming technique highly contributed to enabling learners generate ideas.

A study by Nur (2015) entitled “Analyzing Vocabulary Level of The Students’essay Writing and Academic Textbook Utilizing Lextutor” said assessing students language ability via writing also enables the teacher to examine the level of students’ understanding of the learning materials that they have learnt. In this case, the researcher focuses on the vocabulary level of the students’ writing.

A study by Secer and Celikoz (2017) entitled “The Role of Essay Writing Course, Given along with Comprehension-based Instruction, on the Writing Skill Development of High School Students”. The results of the study found that the essay writing course had a positive impact on the development of writing for high school students. And get the benefits of improving writing skills after taking an essay writing course.

A study by Solikhah (2017) entitled “Corrections on Grammar, Sentence Variety and Developing Detail to Qualify Academic Essay of Indonesian Learners” also confirmed that corrections on grammar, sentence variety and developing details all contributed significant effect on student essay writing. Some possible reasons of this result can be described based on grammar teaching for writing.

A study by Misbah et al. (2017) entitled “Identifying the Factors Contributing to Students’ Difficulties in the English Language Learning” stated that lack of vocabulary has brought the students to fell challenges in acquiring writing skills

A study by Chanyoo (2018) entitled “Cohesive Devices and Academic Writing Quality of Thai Undergraduate Students” stated that cohesion and coherence are important in order to produce a good writing. Student writers need to understand how to utilize these devices to make their text cohere around the central idea of the text in writing.

A study by Putri (2019) entitled “Perception on Essay Writing in Writing Class” found that there are advantages and challenges of essay writing in writing class that students experienced. First, the results of this study show 4 advantages of essay writing. Essay writing is able to enrich the vocabulary of students, essay writing is able to help students express ideas, essay writing improves grammatical writing skills and essay writing improves students' critical thinking. Second, this study also found 4 challenges faced by students in writing an essay. The students have difficulty in using correct spelling, lack of knowledge of the written topic, lack of language knowledge and limited vocabulary.

In a study by Muluk et al. (2022) entitled “Flipping an IELTS Writing Course: Investigating its Impacts on Students' Performance and Attitudes” confirmed that method flexibility, independent learning, as well as collaborative and active learning as a result of the implementation of Flipped Classroom (FC) in IELTS writing course helped students in achieving better writing results.

And the last, research by Sundari and Febriyanti, (2022) entitled “How do EFL University Student-Writers Prepare Their Draft? An Analysis of Writing Strategy Use In EFL Writing Instruction” found that the more writing strategies

used during drafting the essay, the more score and the higher quality of the essay was possibly achieved.

Departing from the problems above, the researcher wants to investigate the benefits of essay writing courses taken by students majoring in English Language Education at UIN Ar-Raniry. The focus of this research is to find out the contribution of Essay Writing course in writing essay for scholarship applications.

### **B. Research Questions**

The research questions of this study are:

1. Does essay writing course helps students in writing an essay scholarship application?
2. What are students' challenges in writing essays scholarship application?

### **C. Research Aims**

The aims of this research are:

1. To find out what aspects that essay writing course helps student in writing an essay scholarship application.
2. To figure out the students' challenges in writing essays scholarship application.

## **D. Research Significances**

### 1. For researchers

It is hoped that the results of this study can be useful for knowledge and contribute to further research on the similar topic.

### 2. For lecturers

This research is expected to provide insight to lecturers about the teaching needs of scholarship application essay writing.

### 3. For institution

This research is expected to be a reference for the English Language Education Department in improving and developing the quality of Essay Writing Courses so that they can be a source of knowledge in supporting student academic achievement, especially in the skills of writing an essay for scholarship applications which are very much needed in today's era.

## **E. Terminologies**

In order to avoid the reader's confusion, there are some terms used in this thesis which need further description:

### **a. Contribution**

Contribution is the act of contributing or something contributed (Harper, 2010 as cited in Shalihah, 2019). The researcher defines the contribution for this

research based on the students' perspectives of the Essay Writing course that contributes or gives benefit in writing essays scholarship application.

**b. Essay writing**

According to the Cambridge online dictionary, essay is a short piece of writing on a particular subject, especially one done by students as part of the work for a course:

In this study, the essay writing course or writing II as previous curriculum is a compulsory course in the English Language Education Department at UIN Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh.

**c. Scholarship**

From the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, there are 3 meanings of scholarship. Definition of scholarship are:

1. a grant-in-aid to a student (as by a college or foundation)
2. the character, qualities, activity, or attainments of a scholar: learning
3. a fund of knowledge and learning drawing on the scholarship of the ancients

The author defines the scholarship here as student exchange scholarship, conference scholarship and tuition scholarships from government or private institutions which in the selection process requires essay writing.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter presents a literature review related to the research that consists of explanation from Essay and Scholarship.

#### **A. Essay**

##### **a. Definition of Essay**

There are several opinions about an essay definition. According to Putri (2019), an essay is a written text constitutes several paragraphs that develop one certain topic. It is one of the common activities that is done in the learning process. Essay writing usually used by the teacher in the learning process as assessment tools. Essays are short pieces of writing that often require students to hone a number of skills such as close reading, analysis, comparison and contrast, persuasion, brevity, clarity, and exposition. As evidenced by this list of attributes, there is much to be gained by students who strive to succeed in essay writing. (Purdue University, 2021).

The purpose of essays is to encourage students to develop ideas and concepts in their writing in a direction that is nothing more than their own thinking (it may be helpful to view essays as opposed to research papers). Therefore, essays are (by nature) concise and require clarity of purpose and direction. This means that there is no room for the student's mind to wander or deviate from its goals; the writing should be intentional and interesting.

## **b. Kinds of Essay**

Eripuddin (2016) explained there are some kinds of essay; descriptive essay, editorial essay, personal essay, reflective essay, essay criticism as follows:

1. **Descriptive Essay.** Descriptive essay is an essay that discusses the description of a subject. In this type of writing, the author describes a topic in full. For example describing a house, car, building, recreation and so on.
2. **Editorial essay.** Is an essay that discusses a topic that is currently becoming a headlines in a community. This essay can be found in newspapers and magazines. Function of the essay is to describe the views and attitudes of newspapers / magazines so that it can form the opinion of the audience.
3. **Personal Essay.** Personal essay are essay that are written based on the author's personality. It tells the views, attitudes, and experiences of the author directly.
4. **Reflective essay.** A reflective essay is written formally and a serious type of writing. The author reveals the deep, earnest, and carefulness of some important topics related to life, such as death, education, politics, and economics. This essay is usually written by academics or scholars who have expertise in topics.
5. **Essay criticism.** In the essay writers critique focuses on the description literature, art, music and so on. This type of writing focuses on the author's goal to make people aware and open their eyes to the existence of a work. One form of this type of writing criticism in literature is called literary criticism.

### c. Structure of essay

Essay is divided into three parts, namely (University of New South Wales [UNSW Sydney], 2020):

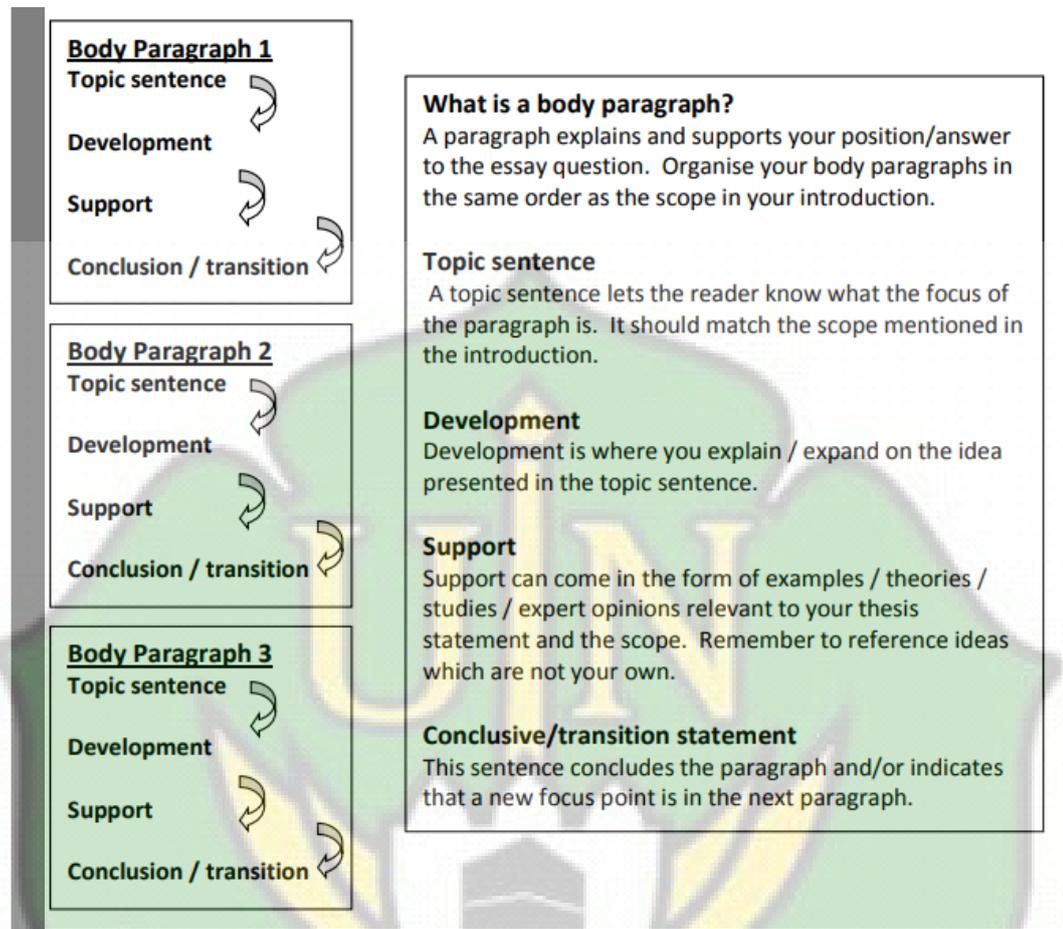
#### 1. The introduction

This section is the first paragraph. It explains topics with general ideas. This section also contains a thesis statement. The introduction is approximately 10% of the total word count. It goes from broad to specific focus:

- A general statement to establish the context.
- The issue / area of focus.
- Your position (answer to the essay question).
- The scope of the essay (the main ideas you will focus on).

#### 2. The main body

This section is the paragraphs that explain and support the thesis statement and located between the introduction and conclusion. There are usually two or more body paragraphs depending on your word limit and your scope.



Source: (University of South Australia. 2017)

**Figure 2. 1. Essay Structure**

### 3. The conclusion

This section is the last paragraph of an essay. It summaries/ restates the thesis and the supporting ideas of the essay.

- A brief summary of your essay (approximately 10% of the total word count).
- Restates the thesis and scope of the essay using different words to avoid repetition.

- Does not include new information/ideas.
- Can include a conclusive statement to show your position and thoughts in relation to the broader topic.

#### **d. Principles of writing competency**

Writing competency is the level of understanding that has been achieved in terms of writing a piece of writing. In writing an essay, the writer's ability can be seen from several principles. According to Sidin (1992), as cited in Ismail and Sabil (2019) explains about seven principles that must have in producing a good essay.

##### **1. Paragraphing**

Paragraphing is an action by dividing text into a paragraph. Paragraphing is an important part of an essay. A writer who does paragraphing shows that a writer writes regularly and makes essays easy to read. Every idea that will be conveyed must be in the small units of the paragraph so that the units come together.

The paragraph can be divided into a few types which are:

- Introduction paragraph.
- Closing paragraph.
- Content paragraph.
- Transition paragraph.
- Dialog paragraph.

## 2. Clarity

Clarity in writing an essay shows the ease for readers to understand the writing written by the author. A clear paragraph will provide a clear, concise and easy-to-understand meaning about the ideas to be conveyed. There are several reasons why an article is not clear. This can be seen from the choice of words, sentence construction and coordination of ideas. A clear sentence is also easy to understand for the intended audience and expertise in choosing vocabulary will also make it easier for readers to understand the contents of an author.

## 3. Coherent

Coherence is unity of the ideas in essay. In a writing, all ideas should associate to the thesis statement. Meanwhile, the supporting ideas in a main body paragraph should associate to the topic sentence.

## 4. Cohesion

Cohesion is unity of structural elements.. It is also ideas that are established in a logical and clear way. The purpose the text to become coherent is the reader can easily understand the key point.

## 5. Perfection

Perfection is a complete unit of mind. In other words, the paragraph consists of developing a complete idea as expected. The tools used to have perfection in writing include supporting details.

## 6. Readability

Readability is related to the reading processes which are understanding, interest and fluency. In the principle of readability, there are three factors, namely the author's ability to link the material read with the reader's experiences and fluency which is to what extent that the reader can read at an optimal rate.

## 7. Neatness

There are several ways to generate neatness scores in essay writing. Some of the sequence needs to be used to give an ease the reader to follow the flow of thought and idea of the writer. Among the sequences are:

- Time sequence
- Space sequence
- Inductive sequence
- Deductive sequence
- From question to answer / from the effect to cause

### e. How to write an essay

According to Eripuddin (2016), there are several factors that must be considered in essay writing:

1. Essay has suitability between theme and content writing.
2. The essay content has the power of opinion and argument.
3. Essay contains ideas and creativity.

## **B. Scholarship**

### **a. Definition of scholarship**

According to the KBBI, the scholarship is "benefits given to students as assistance for learning fees". Scholarships can be interpreted as financial assistance provided to students from an institution both from government institutions or private institutions. Usually an awardee is required to fulfill every criteria that has been set according to the agreement contract either and the recipient has the rights and obligations attached to it.

Indonesian Law Number 12 of 2012 concerning Higher Education in Article 76 Paragraph (2) also clearly mandates the fulfillment of student rights, namely that government students must provide (a) scholarships to outstanding students; (b) assistance or waive Education fees; and/or (c) an interest-free loan that must be repaid after graduation and/or getting a job. According to the Directorate General of Higher Education (2014), what is meant by "scholarship" is educational support provided to students to participate in and/or complete higher education based on primary considerations of academic achievement and/or potential. Meanwhile, "education fee assistance" is education cost support provided to students to participate in and/or complete higher education based on the main consideration of limited economic capacity.

## **b. Purpose of scholarship**

According to the Directorate General of Higher Education (2014), purpose of the scholarship are:

- a. Improving achievement of recipient students both curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular as well as achievement motivation for other students.
- b. Reducing the number of students who drop out of college, because they cannot afford to pay for their education.
- c. Increasing access and equal distribution of learning opportunities in higher education.

## **c. Types of scholarships based on funding sources**

According to Ramadhon et al. (2018), there are two types of scholarships based on sources of funds:

### **1. Scholarships from the Government**

It is a scholarship given by the government both from domestic and friendly countries as part of cooperation between countries. Examples are Beasiswa Unggulan, LPDP scholarship, Australian Awards Scholarship, Fulbright, YSEALI, Lithuanian Government Scholarship and so on.

### **2. Scholarships from NGOs / Private / National and International Companies**

This scholarship is given by the private sector with certain purposes and usually as part of the Corporate Social Responsibility program and other

objectives. Examples are the Tanoto Foundation scholarship, Djarum scholarship plus, Print data scholarships and so on.

#### **d. Types of scholarships based on financial coverage**

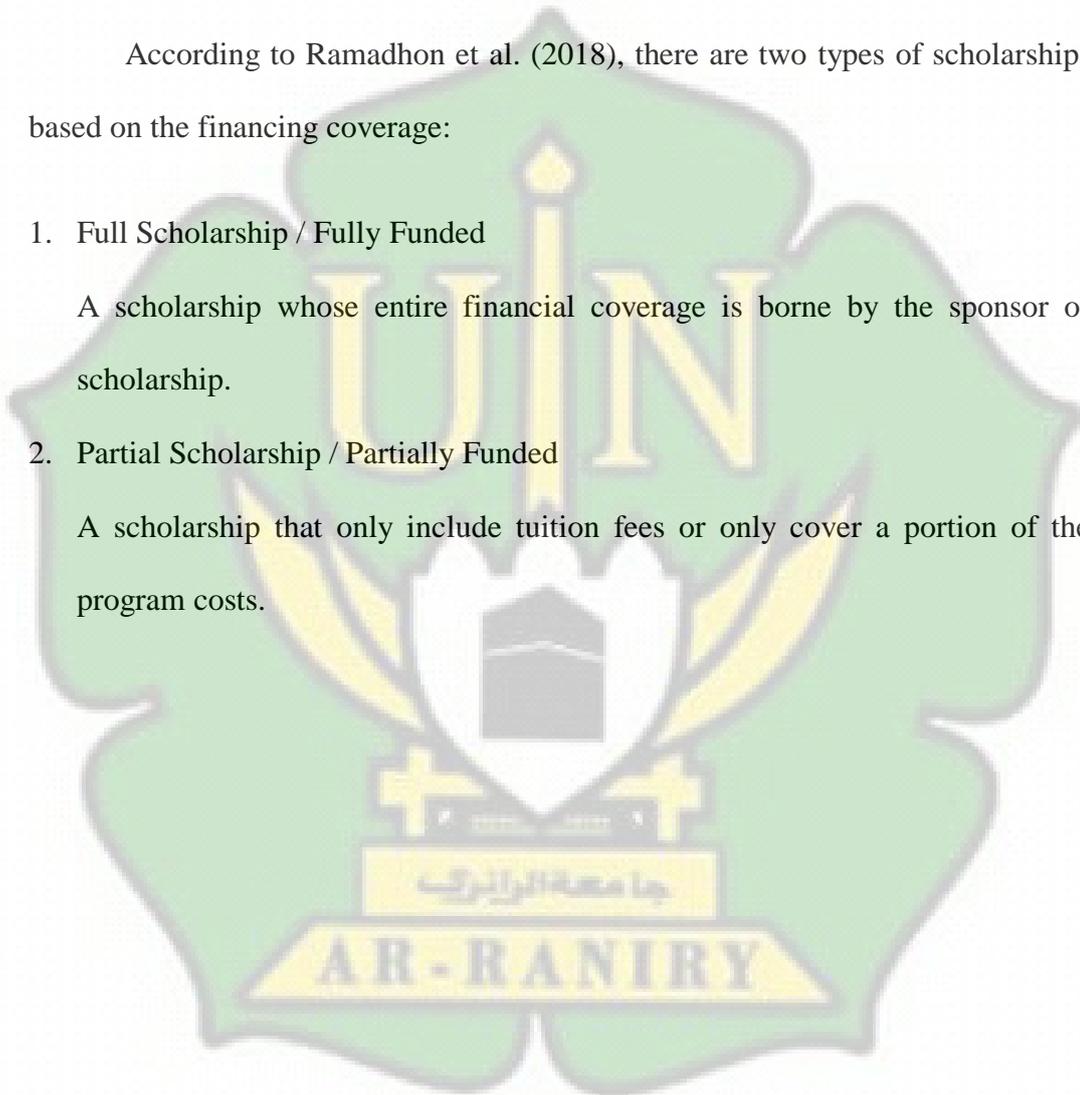
According to Ramadhon et al. (2018), there are two types of scholarships based on the financing coverage:

##### **1. Full Scholarship / Fully Funded**

A scholarship whose entire financial coverage is borne by the sponsor or scholarship.

##### **2. Partial Scholarship / Partially Funded**

A scholarship that only include tuition fees or only cover a portion of the program costs.



## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

#### **A. Research Design**

This study is a qualitative research. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is a method to explore and understand the meaning of groups or an individual associated with social or human problems. Qualitative research is more comprehensive and often involves a rich collection of data from multiple sources to get a deeper understanding of individual participants, including their perspectives, opinions and attitudes. Qualitative research collects data qualitatively, and the method of data analysis is also qualitative (Nassaji, 2015). In this study, researcher used interview to collect data. The data comes from semi-structured interview with selected participants from English education students at UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh.

The purpose of the researcher using qualitative is because qualitative research can explain and describe in more depth about the contribution of essay writing course in writing essay for scholarship application.

## **B. The Population and Sample**

### **1. The population**

According to Sugiyono (2010), population is a generalization area consisting of objects/subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics that are applied by researchers to be studied and then drawn conclusions. Meanwhile, according to Rukminingsih (2020), the population is a collection (total number) of individuals who have the characteristics needed in a study. The population of this study was 482 student of English Language Education Department (PBI) of UIN Ar-Raniry from academic year 2016-2017.

### **2. Sample**

The sample is part of the number and characteristics possessed by the population (Sugiyono, 2010). Meanwhile, according to Rukminingsih (2020), the sample is part of the population. The sample taken must be representative of the entire population because the results of the analysis of the sample will be generalized to the population conclusion.

In this study, researcher choses participants using a purposive sampling technique. According to Arifin (2012, as cited in Farhah, 2020), purposive sampling is a sampling technique based on consideration of certain objectives and certain predetermined criteria or characteristics. Creswell (2012) added by using purposive sampling, researchers deliberately choose participants with standards that are rich in information about the topic being studied. Thus, it can be

concluded that certain criteria and standards need to be set in order to obtain as much information as possible from participants.

Furthermore, based on purposive sampling technique used, the researcher stated a criteria for the research participant such as the students who have taken the Essay Writing course and an awardee of scholarship (student exchange scholarship, conference scholarship, tuition scholarship) which is on the selection process needs to write an essay.

Table 3.1

The Essay Writing/ Writing II Course Grade

No.	Initial Name	The Course Grade
1.	SA	B
2.	RS	A
3.	YA	B
4.	IA	A
5.	AK	A
6.	SF	B
7.	F	B
8.	DA	B

*Source: (The student participant interviews, 2022)*

In this study, there were 8 research participants from the Department of English Language Education, Ar-Raniry State Islamic University who had received scholarships with different program backgrounds. Participants consist of 2 men and 6 women. The details are as follows: 1 participant is an alumni of the Lithuanian Language and Culture Winter Courses in 2019, 2 participants are alumni of the Lithuanian Language and Culture Winter Courses in 2020, 1 participant is from the International Volunteer Program in 2018, 1 participant is

International Visitor Leadership Program in 2019, 1 participant from International Islamic Cultural Connect, 1 participant from ISDB Scholarship and the last 1 participant from International Volunteer Program ( IVP) 2019. The selected participants had the initials SA, RS, YA, IA, AK, SF, F, DA.

### **C. Method of Data Collection**

In collecting data the researcher used interview. The type of interview conducted by the researcher is semi-structured interview. A semi-structured interview is an interview that has predetermined questions and the interviewer could ask the participants some follow up questions and also clarifications (Griffe, 2012).

Due to the pandemic conditions, the researcher conducted interview not directly but using the telephone and the interview was then recorded. Regarding the language in the interview process, the researcher used English because the participants interviewed were students of English language education and already familiar with English in both academic and non-academic fields.

Before starting the interview, the researcher provided a transcript of the questions to be asked to the interviewees. There eleven questions related to the topic of studies. The issue is about the contribution of essay writing course in the scholarship application's essay writing process. They were asked about the contribution and advantage after finishing an essay writing course to their scholarship essay writing skills.

#### **D. Method of Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data that has been collected the researcher uses the steps as suggested by Creswell. Creswell (2014, as cited in Nisrina, 2020) suggested seven steps in analyzing the qualitative data as: First, start from the raw data. Second, organize and prepare data for analysis. Third, read or look at all the data. Fourth, start coding all of the data. Fifth, use the coding process to generate a description of the setting or people as well as categories or themes for analysis. Sixth, advance of how the description and themes will be represented in the qualitative narrative. Seventh, the final step in data analysis involves making an interpretation in qualitative research of the finding or results.

All interview was transcribed using a software called Otter.ai. Then the results of the written interview transcripts were transferred to Microsoft Words for further editing. After that the researcher categorized the questions and answers from the participants to take the research results.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter focuses on research findings and discussion. This study aims to find out the contribution of essay writing courses in writing essay scholarship application.

#### **A. Research Finding**

The researcher collected data from interview that had been conducted from March 23, 2022 – April 5, 2022. After analyzing the data, the researcher presents the following points:

##### **1. The aspects that essay writing course helps student in writing an essay scholarship application.**

The first analysis in this research is to find out the aspect that essay writing course helps students in writing an essay scholarship application. There are several aspects, namely: Acquiring a new knowledge, Improving word choice, Enhancing Coherent and Cohesion, Improving grammar skill, Enhancing ideas development.

##### **a. Acquiring a new knowledge about essay writing**

Several research participants confirmed that after taking the essay writing course they got a lot of improvement in their writing and had a lot of new knowledge as P1 and P6 said

*“Of course, it's so helped me. So helpful for me in writing the essay because actually my English especially for writing is not good enough. So, when I learned this course, I got a lot of knowledge.”* (Participant 1)

*“Alright, so I think by joining this writing course where we have a lot of knowledge, especially in improving our writing, the essay writing.”*  
(Participant 6)

The data showed that taking essay writing course has benefited in writing a scholarship essay. They learned something that they have never learned before. Essay writing gave them new knowledge in improving their writing.

#### b. Improving Word Choice

Word choice in writing is so important because the writer knows how to use precise and effective language that enlighten the reader to understand, be able to choose academic terms and suitable with the context of scholarship provider wants. Some research participants such as P1 and P7 explained that after taking essay writing course they have got a lot of improvement in word choice

*I think yes, essay writing course give me a positive and somehow it helps me in completing my scholarship essay. Because I think in scholarship essay we need to use some academic terms. And there are a lot of there are several techniques that we need to use in making scholarship essay because it's not like the other essay. So I think this essay writing course somehow is really helpful for me to completing my scholarship essay.*  
(Participant 2)

*Of course, of course, why not? Because this is really important for us to understand how to write something better. Because with our essay writing course, it's really helped us in that. Why? Because if you have a great essay, if you have a great, you have a great something like skill in writing when you choose the words when you consider about everything in it needed in that, that just like correlation, such as the founding, the idea that you can prepare and that you can share, it's really helpful. It's really helpful for this scholarship when you can understand how to write better.* (Participant 7)

As the data showed above, it could be inferred that the students felt essay writing course has helped them so much to learn some techniques in choosing the right and proper vocabularies which are suitable with the context of their essay writing theme.

c. Enhancing coherent and cohesion

Many research participants here acknowledged getting a lot improvement in this aspect as said by P1,P3,P4,P5

*I got a lot knowledge about writing like about coherence about how to make the main idea how to look for the content. So, when I learned this actually when I learned this course I realized that writing not that easy but not that difficult too, we have to try to look for the detail for our writing. (Participant 1)*

*“Yeah, because essay writing course explained a lot of things how we can make a good essay writing and then how we can combine our ideas how we can collaborate our argument.” (Participant 3)*

*“And also in the course, we are taught to you know write in right structured and organized structure. And also, we are taught to do some research before we were writing the essay, so that we can give the right impact from a writing. So yeah, I think I improved my essay writing skill a lot... a lot through the course.” (Participant 4)*

*“Okay is totally helped me in writing scholarship essay. In writing course we are learning everything about writing such as like how to set up our writing into to be taught become good and also become coherent, unity in writing course.” (Participant 5).*

*“The other one this course gives me positive impact when I conduct how to say the combination between one paragraph to two paragraph.” (Paragraph 8)*

From the interview above we can concluded that after taking essay writing course the participants understand how to make their essay have a unity both in

coherence, as unity of the ideas in essay writing and in other one is cohesion, the unity of structural elements.

#### d. Improving grammar skill

To have a good grammar skill in writing an essay is so important because the essay writers know how they arrange words to make a proper sentence.

*“that's a really important in my life because I can get a lot of many things like I said before to probably idea to make like brainstorming and then to decide about the topic and then focus how to make good grammar or avoid about grammar mistake in the essay writing about the word choice to make the essay writing because essay writing is like formal essay. So we need more critical thinking how to make a good essay.”* (Participant 3)

P4 also confirmed in essay writing course, they were taught to have writing which is suitable with grammatical understanding in organized structure aspect

*“And also in the course, we are taught to write in right and organized structure.”* (Participant 4)

From the interview showed above, it can be concluded that the participants that had taken essay writing course felt enough contribution from the course to their grammar skill improvement.

#### e. Enhancing Ideas Development

P3, P5, P7, P8 believed there is an improvement on the way they develop ideas in scholarship essay writing. Essay writing course taught the students some

material that support how ideas was developed from the first paragraph to the last paragraph.

*”So that's a really important in my life because I can get a lot of many things like I said before to probably idea to make like brainstorming and then to decide about the topic.”* (participant 3)

*“we also learned about how to have a good critical thinking in build out some ideas when we want to write our essay. Be very connected, there is related to me when I write my scholarship essay and is really useful for me.”* (participant 5)

*“Of course, of course, why not? Because this is really important for us to understand how to write something better. Because with our essay writing course, it's really helped us in that. Why? Because if you have a great essay, if you have a great, you have a great something like skill in writing when you choose the words when you consider about everything in it needed in that, that just like correlation, such as the founding, the idea that you can prepare and that you can share, it's really help. It's really help for this scholarship, when you can understand how to write better.”* (Participant 7)

*Yes, absolutely. It really support my writing process because when I was in writing course, it teach us some material related on how to conduct a good essay in scholarship, that is like how to start ideas in writing and how to conduct, also how to brainstorm the ideas in writing.* (Participant 8)

From the interview showed above, it can be concluded that the participants that had taken essay writing course got a lot improvement in developing ideas. In writing a scholarship essay the research participant has known the right steps how to start ideas. Making a brainstorming to support their writing process.

## 2. Students' challenges in writing essays scholarship application

The second analysis from this research is to find out students' challenges in writing essays scholarship application. There are some aspect namely lack of grammar knowledge, difficulty in understanding scholarship provider essay requirement, difficulty in choosing appropriate vocabularies:

### a. Lack of grammar knowledge

Grammar is a set of rules which arrange a language. Having a good grammar in writing is significant because a good grammar knowledge will help writer to make a proper sentence. P7, P1 acknowledged one of the challenges that student have in writing an scholarship essay is a grammar

*"I have something the obstacle for example my grammar in essay writing."* (Participant 7)

*"Okay. The biggest myself is my anxiety, unconfidently with my grammatical writing."* (Participant 1)

The data showed above, it can be concluded that the participants had taken essay writing course still they have struggle in writing a scholarship essay. As non-English native speaker the grammatical issues are long-term process learning. Mastering grammar is not enough after had finished essay writing course but also need a lot effort in order to achieve advanced level.

b. Difficulty in understanding scholarship provider essay requirement

Before we write down a scholarship essay we need to understand what the scholarship provider want from the candidate of scholarship awardee and what they are looking for both from candidate personality and also from candidate scholarship essay.

All the scholarship provider has put some requirement standards for participant essay as P4 said writing a scholarship essay required a lot of knowledge regarding the program, regarding the institutions who are granting scholarships:

*“Well my challenges in writing a good scholarship essay is usually when I'm trying to, you know to find out to figure out what do the scholarship provider, what do the scholarship institution really wants from the applicants. So sometimes they only like infer it from the requirements on the website or anything like that. It's not really stated on the, you know, their requirement list. So we do have to select figuring out on our own what kind of obligations they really want to do and they will want to look for what's kind of awardee they really want for the program. So that it requires a lot of knowledge regarding the program, regarding the institutions who are granting scholarships. So that is connection networks towards people that are related to that scholarship programs and also lots of information reading will help to you know to cope with this obstacle.”*  
(Participant 4)

Participant 4 said to write a scholarship essay they need to write down according to the theme of scholarship profile:

*“Alright, so sometimes when we want to write a scholarship essay. We need us to know a lot of things, this scholarship sometimes have a quiet like a unique purpose scholarship. For example, my scholarship was*

*about Islamic culture. So I need to know some prior knowledge about Islamic culture so that I can write a good essay. So this is the challenge actually to have a wide of knowledge towards the essay.” (Participant 6)*

Based on the data of the interview above, it can be concluded that the participants need a lot preparation before writing down a scholarship essay. It required a lot preparation such as understand scholarship profile, knowledge about scholarship essay procedure and suit to essay theme so that an opportunity to pass selection process become bigger.

#### c. Difficulty in choosing appropriate vocabularies

Some research participant confirms that they had difficulty in choosing the right vocabularies that suit in their essay. Writing a scholarship essay need to use academic terms that suitable with standard of good scholarship essay writing as P2, P3, P8 said:

*“One of the challenges, challenging things as we need to know the academic terms like the ordinary vocabulary that we use in our daily life. Some somehow it's not really related and not really connected in essay writing in scholarship essay. I think that one of the challenge is to sharpen your vocabulary especially in the academic terms and academic field.” (Participant 2)*

*“And then the second one is the word choice because that's really hard for me to decide what kind of word choice that suit for my essay writing. Because you know when I tried to make an essay writing, like overload thinking you know so that's why we need to make a brainstorming or making online.” (Participant 3)*

*“And the next one may be because when we want to translate one word. Yes how to say? we take suitable words academic words because when we want to write essay for scholarship, it demands us to write with high level words such as like academic words. So it's really complicated. And also it*

*challenged me to choose the high level words as part of vocabulary.”*  
(Participant 8)

Based on the data of the interview, it could be inferred that the problems commonly faced by scholarship candidate is to choose appropriate vocabulary, even they had taken essay writing course in English language education department but writing essay in English need a lot consideration because there are not accustomed with writing an essay in English.

### **3. The way to deal with challenges**

From some of the challenges above that are often experienced by participants while they write a scholarship essay, researcher found a number of interrelated solutions undertaken by participants to overcome and reduce the intensity of the problems that participant faced in writing.

#### **a. Make an outline**

Some participants believed making an outline when writing scholarship essay can help them in composing ideas, choosing the appropriate vocabulary or word choice and making essay writing become coherent. As P3 and P5 said:

*The first one that I can do is making the outline and then making like brainstorming to avoid overlap thinking. Because this is the best thing to, to decide what kinds of things that I should do or should write in my essay.*  
(Participant 3)

*Okay that is like what I said just now to produce a good writing essay. I usually do brainstorming in order can make my writing unity, coherent and perfect and good.* (Participant 5)

Based on the statements above, can be concluded that the participants felt that making an outline has helped them in assembling their ideas so that their writing essays can be arranged in a systematic, logical, clear, structured, and orderly manner. This is very helpful for students in writing essays

#### b. Looking for information

Based on the interviewed from the research, almost all participants mentioned that looking for information has help them in making their essay suit with the standard and format that has been set. As P2, P4, P7 and P8:

*Looking for some references from the internet, but gonna read some of the essay writing the scholarship essay from somebody else. And then that it says I'm looking for good references. (Participant 2)*

*Then you can ask them via email so you can get much clearer how to say this. My much clearer contemplation on what do you who do them really searching for? They're the awardee they really want to look for and then if you if you do not do this then you basically cannot figure out what the scholarship and decision really want from their award. And then that's the first to really ask questions and be proactive. And then the second tips to overcoming this challenge on my behalf is also to do lots and lots of reading. Either scholarship institutions usually have websites or social media that they disseminate information regarding their scholarship. So it's better for you to be in front information by yourself. And yeah, ask some questions if you did not understand or there are some things you want to ask for. (Participant 4)*

*So to overcome it before you take like the test for essay, you need to read a lot to make sure that you have prepared some words to write. So I think the first thing is you need to read a lot. Of course, you need to read a lot. Then we prepare for your understanding like what's your understanding about this scholarship you can bring. (Participant 7)*

*I want to read more, because when you read more, maybe one or two or three times, it will helped us to understand that our writing is suitable or not. (Participant 8)*

From the statement interviewee above, it is so important for scholarship candidate to find comprehensive information in order to understand what the scholarship provider want from the candidate of scholarship awardee and what they are looking for both from candidate personality and also from candidate scholarship essay.

c. Ask someone help

In this case the participants believed that asking for someone help for the comment, advice and suggestion can make their essay become more perfect, as P1, P2, P4:

*I asked them for the comment. And the idea for my essay from my friends, I ask also from my lecturer. So I think the best way to know that our essay is good or not is to ask some comment from the other person. (Participant 1)*

*And then I also reaching out some of my friends or my senior that capable in scholarship essay to ask their advice. (Participant 2)*

*So at first, this is the really important one is to look for the people who already got the scholarship like the people from your circle or your colleagues, the ones you know and then you ask them regarding their experience in applying for the scholarship. And it's even better if you know someone relating to the institution so you can ask them or if you did not have any connection to the former awardee, former applicants or the committee towards the scholarship. Then you can ask them via email so you can get much clearer much clearer how to say this. My much clearer contemplation on what do you who do they really searching for? They're the awardee they really want to look for and then if you if you do not do*

*this then you basically cannot figure out what the scholarship and decision really want from their award. And then that's the first to really ask questions and be proactive. (Participant 4)*

Based on the statements above, it can be conclude that the participants that asking help from someone especially their friend, the one that has got the scholarship to check their essay mistake such as in grammar, word choice, structure, coherent and cohesion can make their essay writing become more perfect an better. In the end good and perfect essay give them more opportunity to pass selection process.

## **B. Discussion**

The purpose of this study is to find out what aspects that essay writing course helps student in writing an essay scholarship application and to figure out the students' challenges in writing essays scholarship application. Based on the interview result conducted from March 23, 2022 – April 5, 2022, the data showed that the eight participants that has taken essay writing course has indicated to respond positively for the contribution of the course in writing a scholarship essay.

The first research question “Does essay writing course helps students in writing an essay scholarship application?”, the results has indicated which participants believed essay writing course has impact on improving student's scholarship essay writing. Participants argued that after taking essay writing course they saw significant improvement in aspect of acquiring new knowledge,

word choice, coherent and cohesion, improving grammar skill, developing ideas. As Secer and Celikoz (2017) in their study found that the essay writing course had a positive impact on the development of writing for high school students. And get the benefits of improving writing skills after taking an essay writing course.

The improvement was felt by the participant has helped in writing essays scholarship application. Participants are also more capable in choosing the right and proper vocabularies which are suitable with the context of their essay writing theme. This was obtained because in writing course there was active practical writing and suggestion from the lecturer on student fault when lesson and homework. As Nur (2015) said assessing students' language ability via writing also enables the teacher to examine the level of students' understanding of the learning materials that they have learnt. And also in a study by Muluk et al. (2022) confirmed that method flexibility, independent learning, as well as collaborative and active learning have posed achieve better writing results by the students.

They also felt the improvement in coherent and cohesion when writing essay scholarship application. As we know, coherence is unity of the ideas and in other one is cohesion is the unity of structural elements. Essay writing course taught student how to combine ideas, bring unity in ideas and structural element between paragraphs. As Chanyoo (2018) stated that cohesion and coherence are important in order to produce a good writing. Student writers need to understand

how to utilize these devices to make their text cohere around the central idea of the text in writing.

The student also experienced improvement in their grammar skill after taking essay writing. In the course learning process there was grammatical correction and lecturer feedback about essay writing task and homework. This learning process has given student more understanding about a good essay writing. In a study by Solikhah (2017) also confirmed that corrections on grammar, sentence variety and developing details all contributed significant effect on student essay writing. Some possible reasons of this result can be described based on grammar teaching for writing.

In addition the participants that had taken essay writing course got a lot improvement in developing ideas in writing a scholarship essay. The participant has known the right steps and strategies how to start ideas. Making a brainstorming to support their writing process. As Ibnian (2011) said that the use of the brainstorming technique highly contributed to enabling learners generate ideas. And also confirmed by Sundari and Febriyanti (2022) that the more writing strategies used during drafting the essay, the more score and the higher quality of the essay was possibly achieved.

The second research question “What are students’ challenges in writing essays scholarship application?”, the results has indicated there are three common challenges felt by the participants which are influenced by lack of grammar

knowledge, difficulty in understanding scholarship provider essay requirement, difficulty in appropriate vocabularies.

Participants believe there are some strategies that can overcome the challenges regard in writing scholarship essay writing. The Participant making an outline when writing scholarship essay in order to help them in composing ideas, choosing the appropriate vocabulary or word choice and making essay writing become coherent. The participants felt that making an outline has helped them in assembling their ideas so that their writing essays can be arranged in a systematic, logical, clear, structured, and orderly manner. From the statement of interviewees is important for scholarship candidate to find comprehensive information in order to understand what the scholarship provider want from the candidate of scholarship awardee and what they are looking for both from candidate personality and also from candidate scholarship essay. The participants also suggest to ask help from someone especially form friend to check their essay mistake both in grammar, word choice, structure, coherent and cohesion in order to make essay writing become more perfect.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION**

This chapter provided the conclusion and the suggestion. The conclusion of the research that is drawn from previous chapter. This chapter also delivers some recommendation for further research.

#### **A. Conclusion**

Essay writing course is one of compulsory course in English Language Education Department. Essay writing course allows student to get a lot knowledge. in improving their essay writing skill which is very beneficial.

This study aims to investigate the contribution that student of English language education department of UIN Ar-Raniry gains from essay writing course on student scholarship essay writing. Essay writing course give student more opportunity to get scholarship and get knowledge in essay writing especially in scholarship essay writing that they have never learnt before.

According to the data in this study, the researcher found that there are several contribution scholarship essay writing after taking essay writing course, those are acquiring a new knowledge, improving word choice, enhancing coherent and cohesion, improving grammar skill, enhancing ideas development.

The problem that commonly faced by the student in writing scholarship essay writing namely, lack of grammar knowledge, difficulty in understanding

scholarship provider essay requirement, difficulty in choosing appropriate vocabularies.

Participants believe there are some strategies that can overcome the challenges regard in writing scholarship essay writing. The Participant making an outline when writing scholarship essay in order to help them in composing ideas, choosing the appropriate vocabulary or word choice and making essay writing become coherent.

### **B. Suggestion**

Based on the findings of the research, it could be concluded that essay writing course gives positive contribution on student scholarship essay writing on EFL students, especially the students of English language education department.

Therefore, here are some suggestions from researcher to EFL students, lecturers, stakeholders in the university and further researcher, as follow:

#### **1. EFL Students**

This research is expected to give EFL students more insights and motivated them about the benefits that could be gained through essay writing course. The researcher suggested that EFL students try to utilize essay writing course as good as possible because this course is so important to improve their essay writing especially scholarship essay writing. As we know almost all scholarships to study abroad need to write essay in order to pass the section process from scholarship provider.

## 2. Lecturer

The researcher hopes that results in this study give positive information and knowledge for the lecturer to improve their lesson plan in order to make the quality of the course is improved.

## 3. Institution

The researcher recommended stakeholders in the university to in improving and developing the quality of Essay Writing Courses so that they can be a source of knowledge in supporting student academic achievement, especially in the skills of writing an essay for scholarship applications which are very much needed in today's era.

## 4. Further Research

The researcher believes this research has limited discussion and scope focuses on the contribution of essay writing course in writing essays scholarship application. The researcher hopes for further research to use another method such as quantitative method so that research participant can be wider, bring more perspective in making the research better in the future.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix A Appointment Letter of Supervisor

SURAT KEPUTUSAN DEKAN FAKULTAS TARBIYAH DAN KEGURUAN UIN AR-RANIRY  
Nomor : B-18632/UN.08/FTK/KP.07.6/12/2021

TENTANG  
PENGANGKATAN PEMBIMBING SKRIPSI MAHASISWA FAKULTAS TARBIYAH DAN KEGURUAN  
UIN AR-RANIRY

DEKAN FAKULTAS TARBIYAH DAN KEGURUAN UIN AR-RANIRY

- Menimbang : a. bahwa untuk kelancaran bimbingan skripsi dan ujian munaqasyah mahasiswa pada Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, maka dipandang perlu menunjuk pembimbing skripsi tersebut yang dituangkan dalam Surat Keputusan Dekan;  
b. bahwa saudara yang tersebut namanya dalam surat keputusan ini dipandang cakap dan memenuhi syarat untuk diangkat sebagai pembimbing skripsi.
- Mengingat : 1. Undang-undang Nomor 20 Tahun 2003, tentang Sistem Pendidikan Nasional;  
2. Undang-undang Nomor 14 Tahun 2005, tentang Guru dan Dosen;  
3. Undang-undang Nomor 12 Tahun 2012, tentang Pendidikan Tinggi;  
4. Peraturan Pemerintah Nomor 74 Tahun 2012 tentang Perubahan atas Peraturan Pemerintah RI Nomor 23 Tahun 2005 tentang Pengelolaan Keuangan Badan Layanan Umum;  
5. Peraturan Pemerintah Nomor 4 Tahun 2014, tentang Penyelenggaraan Pendidikan Tinggi dan Pengelolaan Perguruan Tinggi;  
6. Peraturan Presiden RI Nomor 64 Tahun 2013; tentang Perubahan IAIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh Menjadi UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh;  
7. Peraturan Menteri Agama RI Nomor 12 Tahun 2014, tentang Organisasi dan Tata Kerja UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh;  
8. Peraturan Menteri Republik Indonesia No. 21 Tahun 2015, tentang Statuta UIN Ar-Raniry;  
9. Keputusan Menteri Agama Nomor 492 Tahun 2003, tentang Pendelegasian Wewenang, Pengangkatan, Pemindahan dan Pemberhentian PNS di Lingkungan Departemen Agama Republik Indonesia;  
10. Keputusan Menteri Keuangan Nomor 293/KMK.05/2011 tentang Penetapan Institut Agama Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh pada Kementerian Agama sebagai Instansi Pemerintah yang Menerapkan Pengelolaan Badan Layanan Umum;  
11. Keputusan Rektor UIN Ar-Raniry Nomor 01 Tahun 2015, tentang Pendelegasian Wewenang kepada Dekan dan Direktur Pascasarjana di Lingkungan UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh;
- Memperhatikan : Keputusan Sidang/Seminar Proposal Skripsi Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan UIN Ar-Raniry Tanggal 12:00:00 AM
- MEMUTUSKAN**
- Menetapkan  
PERTAMA : Menunjuk Saudara:  
1. Dr. Safrul Muluk, M.A. Sebagai Pembimbing Pertama  
2. Azizah, S.Ag., M.Pd. Sebagai Pembimbing Kedua  
Untuk membimbing Skripsi :  
Nama : **Aulia Agusdi**  
NIM : **170203114**  
Program Studi : **Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris**  
Judul Skripsi : **The Contribution of Essay Writing Course in Writing Essays Scholarship Application**
- KEDUA : Pembiayaan honorarium pembimbing pertama dan kedua tersebut diatas dibebankan pada DIPA UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh Tahun 2020; No.025.04.2.423925/2020, tanggal 12 November 2019.
- KETIGA : Surat keputusan ini berlaku sampai akhir semester Genap Tahun Akademik 2021/2022
- KEEMPAT : Surat Keputusan ini berlaku sejak tanggal ditetapkan dengan ketentuan segala sesuatu akan diubah dan diperbaiki kembali sebagaimana mestinya apabila kemudian hari ternyata terdapat kekeliruan dalam penetapan ini.

Ditetapkan di: Banda Aceh  
Pada Tanggal: 29 Desember 2021  
Dekan,

  
Muslim Razali

**Tembusan**

1. Rektor UIN Ar-Raniry (sebagai laporan);
2. Kena Prodi PBI Fak. Tarbiyah dan Keguruan;

Appendix B Recommendation Letter from the Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan  
to conduct Field Research



**KEMENTERIAN AGAMA**  
**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI AR-RANIRY**  
**FAKULTAS TARBIIYAH DAN KEGURUAN**  
Jl. Syeikh Abdur Rauf Kopelma Darussalam Banda Aceh  
Telepon : 0651- 7557321, Email : uin@ar-raniry.ac.id

Nomor : B-4738/Un.08/FTK.1/TL.00/03/2022  
Lamp : -  
Hal : **Penelitian Ilmiah Mahasiswa**

Kepada Yth,  
Ketua Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Fakultas Tarbiyah UIN Ar - Raniry

Assalamu'alaikum Wr.Wb.  
Pimpinan Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan UIN Ar-Raniry dengan ini menerangkan bahwa:

Nama/NIM : **AULIA AGUSDI / 170203114**  
Semester/Jurusan : X / Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris  
Alamat sekarang : Jl. Rawa Sakti Barat, Lr. VII, Gampoeng Jeulingke, Syiah Kuala, Banda Aceh

Saudara yang tersebut namanya diatas benar mahasiswa Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan bermaksud melakukan penelitian ilmiah di lembaga yang Bapak/Ibu pimpin dalam rangka penulisan Skripsi dengan judul ***The Contribution of Essay Writing Course in Writing Essays Scholarship Application***

Demikian surat ini kami sampaikan atas perhatian dan kerjasama yang baik, kami mengucapkan terimakasih.

Banda Aceh, 31 Maret 2022  
an. Dekan  
Wakil Dekan Bidang Akademik dan  
Kelembagaan,



Berlaku sampai : 30 April  
2022

Dr. M. Chalis, M.Ag.

## Appendix C Interview Instrument

This data needed for thesis research entitled “*The Contribution of Essay Writing Course in Writing Essays Scholarship Application*”

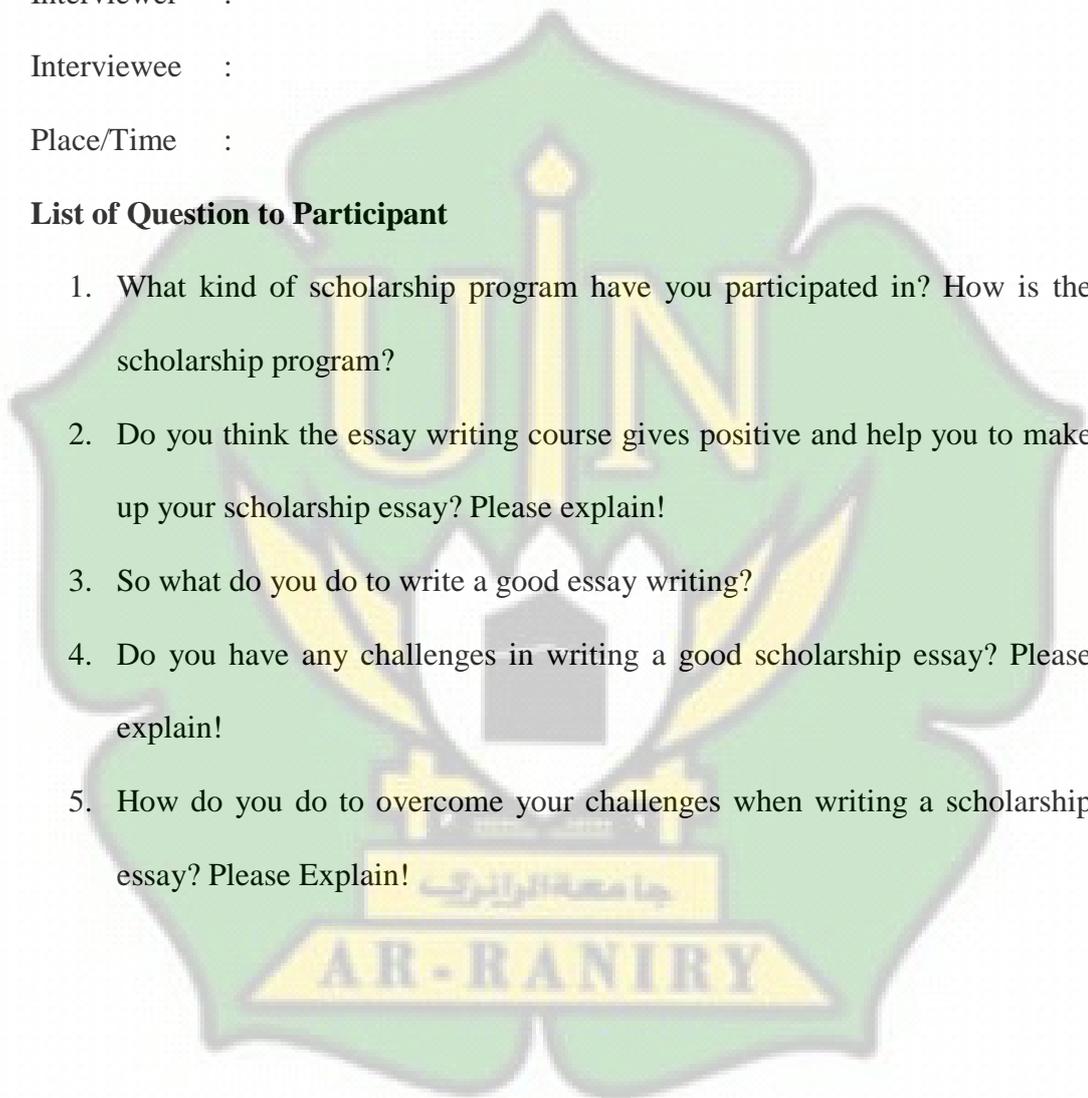
Interviewer :

Interviewee :

Place/Time :

### List of Question to Participant

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?
2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!
3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?
4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!
5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!



## Appendix D Sample from data collection

### Interview Transcript of Participant 1

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay. So, I participate in Lithuanian language and culture scholarship intercourse. So, there I learned about their culture, Lithuanian culture of course and about their language and maybe the buildings or some art from their nations.

2. Did you ever take the essay writing course?

Of course, I ever took this essay writing course, because I think it is the main course in PBI.

3. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Of course, it's so helped me. So helpful for me in writing the essay because actually my English especially for writing is not good enough. So, when I learned this course, I got a lot knowledge about writing like about coherence about how to make the main idea how to look for the content. So, when I learned this actually when I learned this course I realized that writing not that easy but not that difficult too, we have to try to look for the detail for our writing.

4. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Okay, first I can tell you a story when I want to write my essay. For the first for the first time it I have an anxiety for my English. So, I asked for my motivations or positive motivations for my friends. First, I asked how to write how to look for the ideas or whatever about my inside insights and they give me a lot of motivation first, yeah. So, I can start my writing by looking for ideas and searching about the country or for I think the most important when we write, we have to know the content, what we want to write the content that's suitable for this scholarship of course, what is what is the scholarship about and then what the apps for what they want from us, when we will join this program. So, for beginning I start to look for all the information about the scholarship, right? And then I start writing from the main idea that I have right first, so I start the main idea for the paragraph or what I want to write paragraph two and paragraph three, and so on. Next, after I have the main idea that I want to tell, I write some Supporting idea right okay, I have learned about main idea and supporting idea of course it I got from essay writing course from one paragraph to paragraph I have to make the coherent sentence

and all of this of this way from for writing this essay all about knowledge I got from this essay writing course.

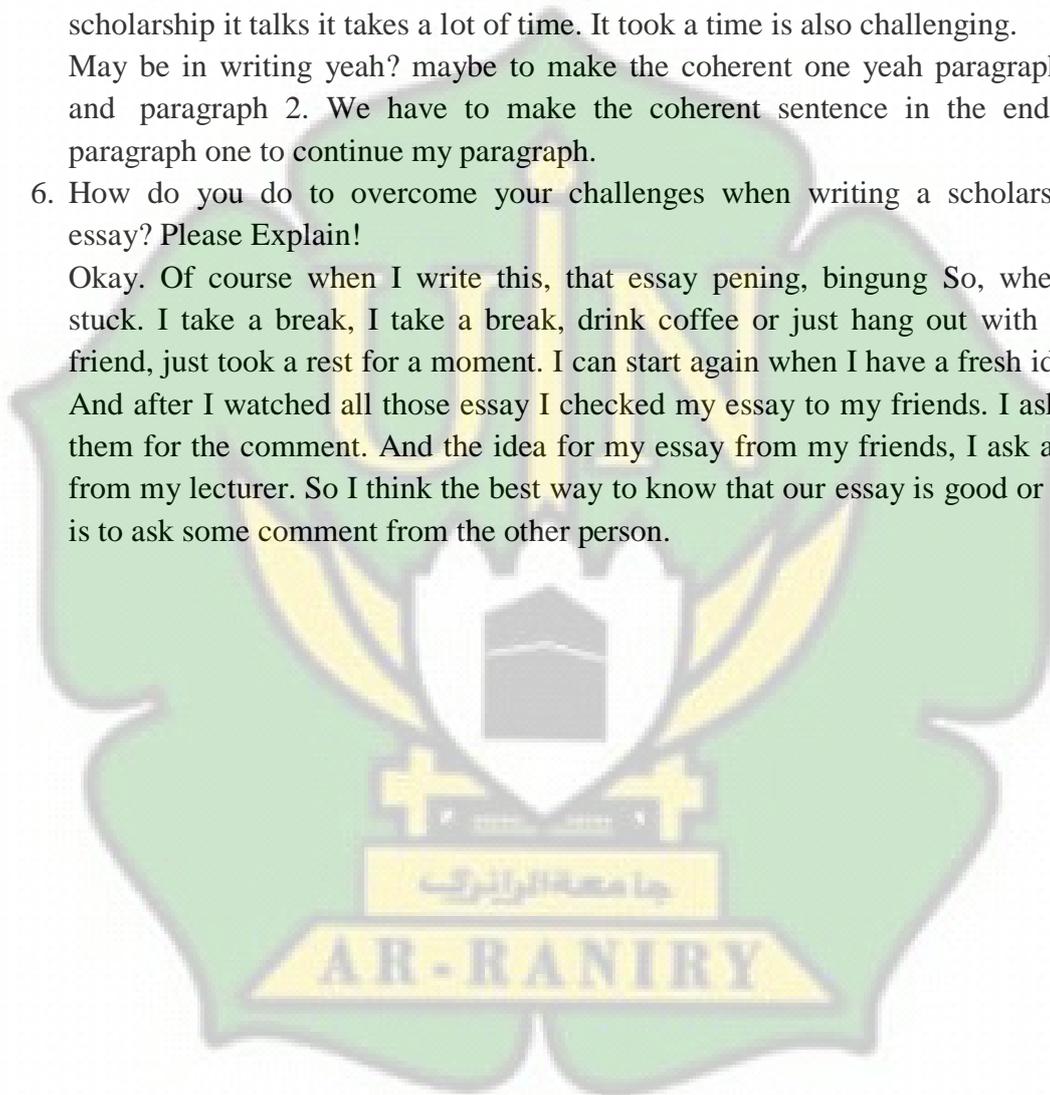
5. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Okay. The biggest myself is my anxiety, unconfidently with my grammatical writing. And the second one is searching about the country searching about the scholarship it talks it takes a lot of time. It took a time is also challenging.

May be in writing yeah? maybe to make the coherent one yeah paragraph 1 and paragraph 2. We have to make the coherent sentence in the end of paragraph one to continue my paragraph.

6. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Okay. Of course when I write this, that essay pening, bingung So, when I stuck. I take a break, I take a break, drink coffee or just hang out with my friend, just took a rest for a moment. I can start again when I have a fresh idea. And after I watched all those essay I checked my essay to my friends. I asked them for the comment. And the idea for my essay from my friends, I ask also from my lecturer. So I think the best way to know that our essay is good or not is to ask some comment from the other person.



## Interview Transcript of Participant 2

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Thank you so much for this opportunity. Actually, for your first question. My answer is I participate in one of the government program. it calls Lithuanian government scholarships. So the scholarship is what I did, and it is like a one month program. And I've learned a lot of things from the scholarship from the scholarship program.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

I think yes, essay writing course give me a positive and somehow it helps me in completing my scholarship essay. Because I think in scholarship essay we need to use some academic terms. And there are a lot of there are several techniques that we need to use in making scholarship essay because it's not like the other essay. So I think this essay writing course somehow is really helpful for me to completing my scholarship essay.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Actually, I think before we write essay writing the first thing we need to know is you need to analyze first like the question before, before get the answer about that. Analyze question and then the other important thing is you need to make an outline. So outline makes it easier to complete the essay writing. Yeah, because without the outline sometimes you just feel perplexed and confused in the middle of the range because you don't know what to write. Yeah so I think make an essay outline, it's really important. And then also to start this paragraph, maybe body in the introduction yeah. I think in the essay writing, you don't really need to just oversell or something like that. Just jump into the point you need to start each paragraph with the topic sentence. I think that's what I what I learned from the essay writing course. And I think the thing that I learned from this course is you can apply it and implement it in making a good essay writing.

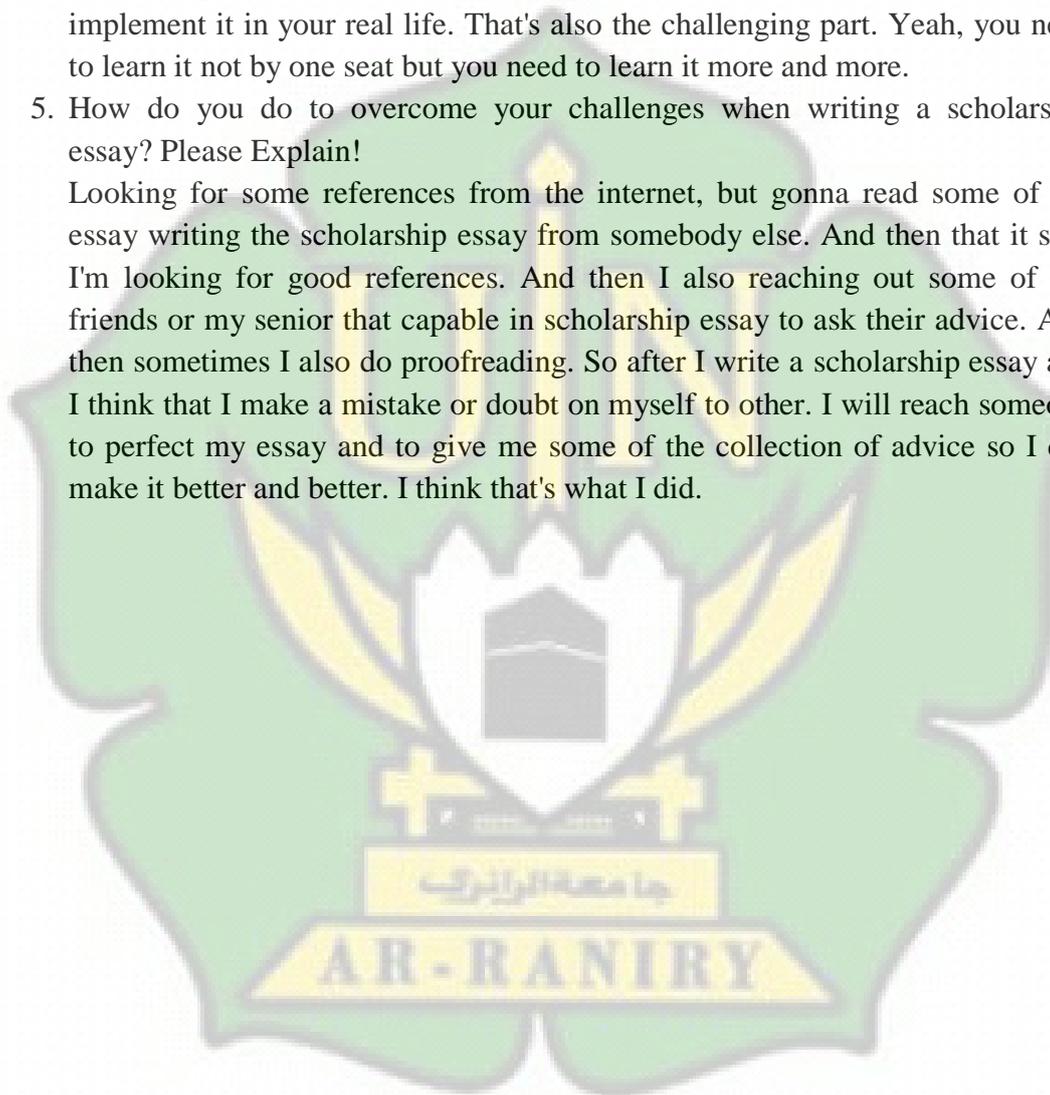
4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Yes of course, like anything before in scholarship essay. This is the amount of essay I think, this type of essay especially for example, like scholarship essay. If you want to make a scholarship essay. One of the challenges, challenging things as we need to know the academic terms like the ordinary vocabulary that we use in our daily life. Some somehow it's not really related and not really connected in essay writing in scholarship essay. I think that one of the challenge is to sharpen your vocabulary especially in the academic terms and

academic field. The other challenge maybe we can not develop our argument. That's also hard to do actually develop your arguments to elaborate your opinion with the evidence to not just Because sometimes writing scholarship an essay it is like daydreaming you will tell about this dream this in this light and this one. Yeah. But the thing it's not seems like a reality yes to make the scholarship essay that looks really good and looks so real that you can implement it in your real life. That's also the challenging part. Yeah, you need to learn it not by one seat but you need to learn it more and more.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Looking for some references from the internet, but gonna read some of the essay writing the scholarship essay from somebody else. And then that it says I'm looking for good references. And then I also reaching out some of my friends or my senior that capable in scholarship essay to ask their advice. And then sometimes I also do proofreading. So after I write a scholarship essay and I think that I make a mistake or doubt on myself to other. I will reach someone to perfect my essay and to give me some of the collection of advice so I can make it better and better. I think that's what I did.



### Interview Transcript of Participant 3

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay, thank you for the question actually I ever follow one of the scholarship program, the scholarship program name is Lithuanian Language and Culture Winter Course by Lithuanian Government Scholarship, this program focus how we learn the language, I mean, the Lithuanian language and then how we learn about culture about the system of education or something like that. So the program give the duration to apply is around two months. We are we were stayed in Lithuania country.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Absolutely yes. Because as you know that essay writing is one of the highest and and the important skill that we need too as English Education Department. Yeah, because essay writing course explained a lot of things how we can make a good essay writing and then how we can combine our ideas how we can collaborate our argument. So that's a really important in my life because I can get a lot of many things like I said before to probably idea to make like brainstorming and then to decide about the topic and then focus how to make good grammar or avoid about grammar mistake in the essay writing about the word choice to make the essay writing because essay writing is like formal essay. So we need more critical thinking how to make a good essay.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

I think that there I will, I will mentioned several, several things that I that I should do when I want to make an essay writing. The first one is, is a choice or define one topic, like brainstorming, like make it outline like what what kind of we want to make in our essay. And then the second one is make make make an Yeah, like going to the going into the Google maybe or the website that related to our our topic like previous reference maybe or previous motivation. What I mean like you have a previous essay writing that related our topic and then the third one is word choice. And the last is like the grammar grammatical, yeah.

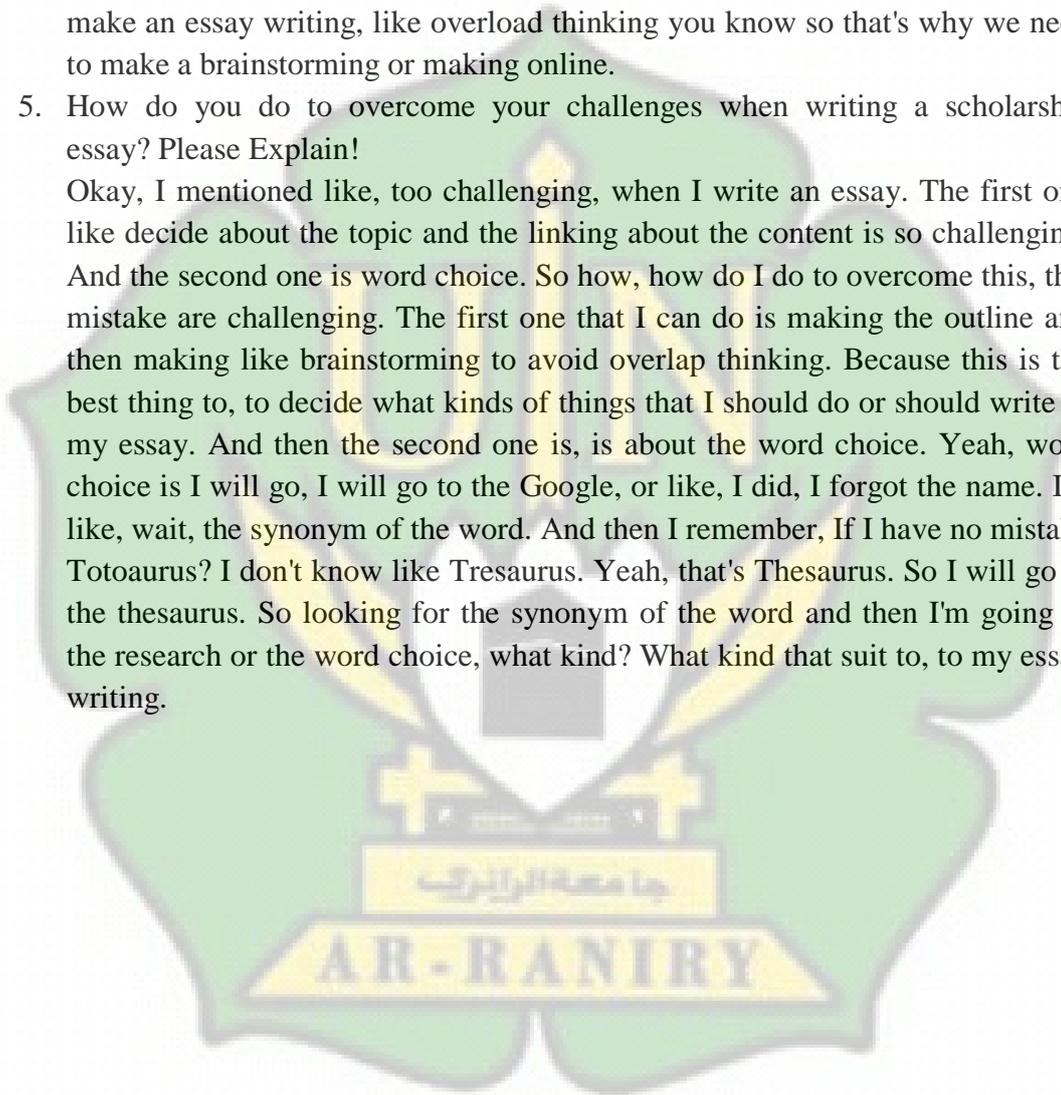
I want to I want to add one thing that really important. Before we, even after I, after I finished to do to make an essay, I don't forget to contact or make networking for someone to check my essay because that's a really because this is the best thing for me. Because you know, I don't have a lot of experience how to make good essays. So that's why I need to contact someone to check my essay.

4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Yeah of course, I have many, not many thing but like several things, like challenging when I write the essay that's so really hard. Yeah. It's like choose the topic and then how we link the topic in for in the content. So that is the challenge, challenging stuff when I write the essay writing and then the second one is the word choice because that's really hard for me to decide what kind of word choice that suit for my essay writing. Because you know when I tried to make an essay writing, like overload thinking you know so that's why we need to make a brainstorming or making online.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Okay, I mentioned like, too challenging, when I write an essay. The first one like decide about the topic and the linking about the content is so challenging. And the second one is word choice. So how, how do I do to overcome this, this mistake are challenging. The first one that I can do is making the outline and then making like brainstorming to avoid overlap thinking. Because this is the best thing to, to decide what kinds of things that I should do or should write in my essay. And then the second one is, is about the word choice. Yeah, word choice is I will go, I will go to the Google, or like, I did, I forgot the name. It's like, wait, the synonym of the word. And then I remember, If I have no mistake Totoaurus? I don't know like Tresaurus. Yeah, that's Thesaurus. So I will go to the thesaurus. So looking for the synonym of the word and then I'm going to the research or the word choice, what kind? What kind that suit to, to my essay writing.



## Interview Transcript of Participant 4

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay, thank you for the question Aulia. So my scholarship program that I participated in, was Outstanding Youth for the World and International Visitor Leadership Program. So it's basically a collaboration between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia and the US Department of State. So this scholarship program is a US exchange that the Indonesian youth delegation to the US to study bilateral partnership between the two countries, and also to study the dynamics of democracy, politic, education, diplomacy, it's basically lots of things. So that's the kind of scholarship I participate in.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Yeah, the essay writing course, well, it's not specifically an essay writing course because it's more general. but we did learn about essay writing for scholarship, it helped me a lot. Especially because the lecturer is very supportive and gave lots of feedback to our writing. And also in the course, we are taught to you know write in right structured and organized structure. And also in the course, we are taught to you know write in right structured and organized structure. And also, we are taught to do some research before we were writing the essay, so that we can give the right impact from a writing. So yeah, I think I improved my essay writing skill a lot... a lot through the course.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

What I do to write a good essay writing is basically at first, I have to do some research towards what I'm gonna write. It's like at first, I'm gonna do some browsing you know, some browsing towards the themes or the topic. And once I get as much info as many information as I can. Then I will write down the structure, our draft, the structure of what I want to do what I want to write. So it's basically some sections, I divided the essay based on the sections of what I want to write. It depends on what kind of topic I like to write. And once I'm done with structuring the draft of the essay, I will start breaking down or elaborating the points that I want to make in the essay. And then after that I'd like to do the conclusion at the end of the essay. To make it clearer to to you know, to to make the message clear from from my essay. So that's what I do first research and then do the drafting. Third one is elaborating the points. While I'm doing the drafting as a second step, I also make make the points that I want. I want to disseminate through the essays, so that when I get to the third step, elaborating the points. I do like as detailed as I can, from the information that I got, based on the information that I gathered, and then the third one this

is very important is to conclude all of the information. And also the sections or the points that I made to emphasize what I'm trying to say in the essay.

4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Well my challenges in writing a good scholarship essay is usually when I'm trying to, you know to find out to figure out what do the scholarship provider, what do the scholarship institution really wants from the applicants. So sometimes they only like infer it from the requirements on the website or anything like that. It's not really stated on the, you know, their requirement list. So we do have to select figuring out on our own what kind of obligations they really want to do and they will want to look for what's kind of awardee they really want for the program. So that it requires a lot of knowledge regarding the program, regarding the institutions who are granting scholarships. So that is connection networks towards people that are related to that scholarship programs and also lots of information reading will help to you know to cope with this obstacle.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Yeah, I explained briefly that are that the connections will help to overcoming the challenges which is to figure out what do the institution of the scholarship really want from the awardee. So at first, this is the really important one is to look for the people who already got the scholarship like the people from your circle or your colleagues, the ones you know and then you ask them regarding their experience in applying for the scholarship. And it's even better if you know someone relating to the institution so you can ask them or if you did not have any connection to the former awardee, former applicants or the committee towards the scholarship. Then you can ask them via email so you can get much clearer much clearer how to say this. My much clearer contemplation on what do you who do they really searching for? They're the awardee they really want to look for and then if you if you do not do this then you basically cannot figure out what the scholarship and decision really want from their award. And then that's the first to really ask questions and be proactive. And then the second tips to overcoming this challenge on my behalf is also to do lots and lots of reading. Either scholarship institutions usually have websites or social media that they disseminate information regarding their scholarship. So it's better for you to be in front information by yourself. And yeah, ask some questions if you did not understand or there are some things you want to ask for.

## Interview Transcript of Participant 5

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay, thanks for the question. I'm gonna answer this question. The first question is about kind of countries that have participated before. So this scholarship that I have participate is kind of voluntary scholarship. This scholarship gives us in order to teach the students in PPW and I are also known as Pusat Pendidikan Warga Negara Indonesia in Klang, Malaysia. So with this. The students actually they are from Indonesia, but they don't have legal.... They don't have legal document of date. So, we are in order to keep them open.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Okay is totally helped me in writing scholarship essay. In writing course we are learning everything about writing such as like how to set up our writing into to be taught become good and also become coherent, unity in writing course. We also learned about how to have a good critical thinking in build out some ideas when we want to write our essay. Be very connected, there is related to me when I write my scholarship essay and is really useful for me.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Okay. Actually, I have a little bit difficulties in writing that I ever face it. Personally before writing report for using Writing, firstly I do brings to me by brainstorming I can put my idea of there so I can reuse all what I have to write a project so it makes me/ It's facilitating me to produce a very good essay writing.

4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Okay. Actually there are many questions related to essay in scholarship programs. So for me personally the most difficult thing that I experience in writing essay to build up the idea. For me, sometimes very hard for me to build up or make your good idea.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Okay that is like what I said just now to produce a good writing essay. I usually do brainstorming in order can make my writing unity, coherent and perfect and good. And also another as we know that the question that offered in scholarship application is variety is many questions. So, before that I open that question as you know that the duration for us to submit me at the application is long sometimes but other that I open the link in order to know the questions.

So, I and then I write or I screenshot it and then how to say? so that I can know the question and then I can do later in my spare time to produce good idea or to produce a good writing.



## Interview Transcript of Participant 6

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay, thank you for the question. So I have been participated in some programs like abroad scholarship, that one of the programs that has participated, this is called International Islamic culture connect in 2018. So the program is about the exchange of the cultural, the Islamic cultures into countries in Singapore and also Malaysia. So we are from Indonesia, we come there in the Ramadhan in 2018. And then we learn how is Ramadhan going in both countries.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Alright, so I think by joining this writing course where we have a lot knowledge, especially in improving our writing, the essay writing. So when I took the writing 1 I learned that the best thing is writing and then we continue to take the second course or writing 2, so we learn the advanced level of writing in more detail. And then in the last course, is that academic writing. So we learn how to make academic writing, just add academic essay, and also the research. So it's really helped a lot. Because in writing the essay to apply to program, you also need some quick and tips of course.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Okay, one of the most important thing is that understand the topic or the question about essay we want to write. So before writing a essay, we have to make sure that our essay meets the topic that they asked all they want. So we have to analyze what we tell of the topic that we have to strengthen in our essays. So understanding the topic is one of the most important thing when we want to write a essay. After understanding the topic or the idea we want to make sure that we cover all the idea that they need and also we read the wording in the good grammatical structures and also the coherence where the each sentence is related to its others. And also unity it's mean that between one another paragraph, it has buildings or it's connected to each other. So that is what we need to write good essays.

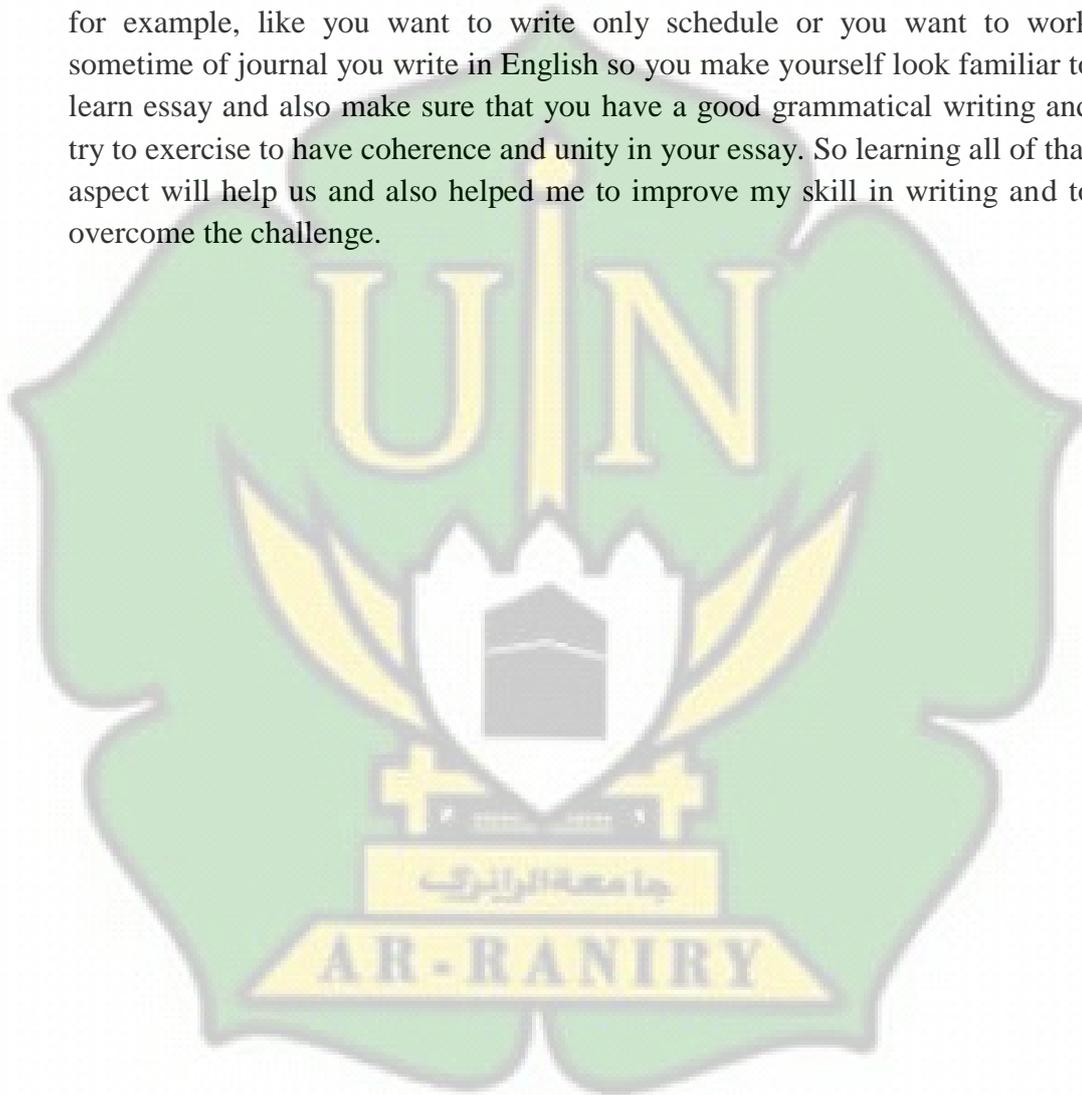
4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Alright, so sometimes when we want to write a scholarship essay. We need us to know a lot of things, this scholarship sometimes have a quiet like a unique purpose scholarship. For example, my scholarship was about Islamic culture. So I need to know some prior knowledge about Islamic culture so that I can

write a good essay. So this is the challenge actually to have a wide of knowledge towards the essay.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

So, when to overcome this challenge that I think we'll have to read aloud about the topic and also we learned we do writing. Like we try to add a lot of things for example, like you want to write only schedule or you want to work sometime of journal you write in English so you make yourself look familiar to learn essay and also make sure that you have a good grammatical writing and try to exercise to have coherence and unity in your essay. So learning all of that aspect will help us and also helped me to improve my skill in writing and to overcome the challenge.



## Interview Transcript of Participant 7

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

It's like a scholarship program to study abroad. It's like, it's like fully funded and then they called ISDB scholarship programs so that the study that we'll provide it from the scholarship or institution is like, we get to work and study abroad. And then we can learn some many things about like, their culture about everything that we need to take when we study abroad. So it's like a scholarship for us to study in another country. That's it.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Of course, of course, why not? Because this is really important for us to understand how to write something better. Because with our essay writing course, it's really helped us in that. Why? Because if you have a great essay, if you have a great, you have a great something like skill in writing when you choose the words when you consider about everything in it needed in that, that just like correlation, such as the founding, the idea that you can prepare and that you can share, it's really helpful. It's really helpful for this scholarship when you can understand how to write better.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Okay I need to explain you my strategy, my strategy. Okay, the first one, I just want you to know that previous knowledge that you have for ideas that you can bring that you can share this really important. The first one, you need to have ideas, the best idea or the best.. the best way to share about your ideas. For example, if you want to tell about the correlation between or the relationship between our country in another country we need to make sure our ideas can relate to the title to the same, so that people can understand what we were gonna write on the paper, or just write something about it. So I think the best idea first, it's really important. And then the second one, make sure that you're writing, it's really kind of like Academy. For example, use the best words. You can level up your words, you can level up your ideas there that you can share. This idea can bring you for what point after that because this is really matter. This is really important between your ideas and also the words that you choose. And the last one, I think the strategy is you need to make sure that everything in your idea is related with you're perspective, related with what the institution needs, what they need, what the scholarship programs fields need. So, if they need about something like Academy something like creative, being more creative when you write it, you can share your experience you can share your

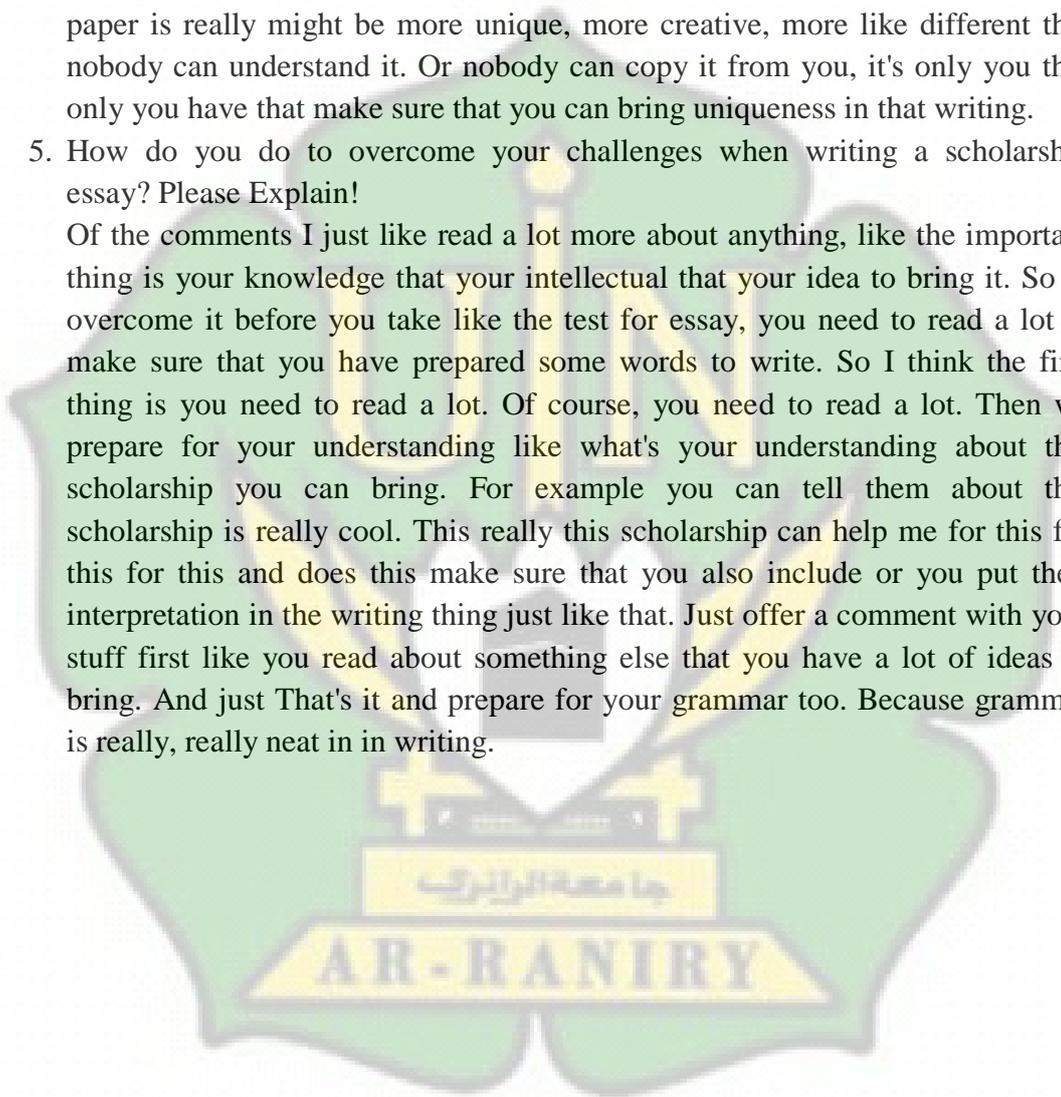
ideas. Everything that you need you can take it, you can just bring it. That's it, I think just like that.

4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

I have something the obstacle for example my grammar in essay writing. for example not only grammar but also like the ideas that you need to take on the paper is really might be more unique, more creative, more like different that nobody can understand it. Or nobody can copy it from you, it's only you that only you have that make sure that you can bring uniqueness in that writing.

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Of the comments I just like read a lot more about anything, like the important thing is your knowledge that your intellectual that your idea to bring it. So to overcome it before you take like the test for essay, you need to read a lot to make sure that you have prepared some words to write. So I think the first thing is you need to read a lot. Of course, you need to read a lot. Then we prepare for your understanding like what's your understanding about this scholarship you can bring. For example you can tell them about this scholarship is really cool. This really this scholarship can help me for this for this for this and does this make sure that you also include or you put their interpretation in the writing thing just like that. Just offer a comment with your stuff first like you read about something else that you have a lot of ideas to bring. And just That's it and prepare for your grammar too. Because grammar is really, really neat in in writing.



## Interview Transcript of Participant 8

1. What kind of scholarship program have you participated in? How is the scholarship program?

Okay, thank you so much for this question. Actually, I have apply scholarship about IVP (International Volunteer Program) in Thailand. And that will offer us some program related on volunteer. Yes, volunteer programs such as like to be volunteer teacher and also to be activated in there. So that so I think this is the very good scholarship for teenager and also for undergraduate students.

2. Do you think the essay writing course gives positive and help you to make up your scholarship essay? Please explain!

Yes, absolutely. It really support my writing process because when I was in writing course, it teach us some material related on how to conduct a good essay in scholarship, that is like how to start ideas in writing and how to conduct, also how to brainstorm the ideas in writing. The other one this course gives me positive impact when I conduct how to say the combination between one paragraph to two paragraph because we have started to like, transformative words. You know, it's like that, however, in addition. It really helped me to combine between one paragraph to another paragraph. And also, I think by following essay writing course it really how to say, yes maybe for me brainstorming is very important thing that I got from essay writing course. I think that's all.

3. So what do you do to write a good essay writing?

Okay, the first one, I have to make sure that the topic related on the term that application for us. And also the second one, I want to make sure that our writing based on the data. Yes, because the data is really support our essay writing to be those writing. And also the next one is I want to make sure that one paragraph is related to the next paragraph. Because when we want to write some things, when we want to write something that unrelated, it will be biased or maybe difficult for the reader to understand about our writing. And the next one maybe the last one, maybe I want to make sure that how to say? yes the unity are coherent in/ writing is suitable. And I mean, that's all.

4. Do you have any challenges in writing a good scholarship essay? Please explain!

Okay talking about challenges, actually. Yes, maybe for ideas because when we got started in writing is really difficult. It's really complicated because we lost our idea. And the next one may be because when we want to translate one word. Yes how to say? We take suitable words academic words because when we want to write essay for scholarship, it demands us to write with high level

words such as like academic words. So it's really complicated. And also it challenged me to choose the high level words as part of vocabulary

5. How do you do to overcome your challenges when writing a scholarship essay? Please Explain!

Okay. To be honest, when I want the reason I think the one that we can to overcome my challenge when I want to write something I mean for scholarship. So I want to make sure that I have followed the format based on the order of essay writing. And second one, I also I want to make sure that our writing how to say? I want to read more, because when you read more, maybe one or two or three times, it will be helped us to understand that our writing is suitable or not. And the next one, I want to make sure that I have to choose, I choose the highlight for/ at word. So I think the three ways that I apply in my writing, I think that's all.

