

TEACHING ENGLISH WRITING SKILL FOR: ACADEMIC WRITING AND FREE/CREATIVE WRITING FOR STUDENT

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Abstract: English is the more powerful language around the world it can be seen around the world many people knowing and using English well. There are so many languages likes Indonesian, Spanish, Chinese, France, etc. But English always using as communication between other people around this world. Using English it means knowing better how to speak, read, listen and write about it. The difficult one of express about English is that how to writing down English language. Like another language in this word, English has it owns rule and grammar to write. And writing English can be divided into two kinds such as academical writing and free writing. From these kind of writing, the difference between both of them is also clear when practicing English writing. For academic writing is a writing that usually focus on rules or mechanism in writing, this type of writing always use in formal education and formal subject. To knowing academic writing it is need theory and also practice. For this writing people have to know clearly about the step of academic writing. This writing is not only to transfer the message but focus for the arrangement of good writing. In another way, free writing is the simplest one. This writing doesn't need theory but can be done by practicing directly. In practicing free writing people only need a topic or theme to write about. The important thing in free writing is only to transfer the message or make another people understand about the meaning.

Keywords: *Academic Writing, Creative Writing, Writing Skill*

Abstrak: Bahasa Inggris adalah bahasa yang paling kuat di seluruh dunia yang dapat dilihat dari banyak orang di seluruh dunia yang mengetahui dan menggunakan bahasa Inggris dengan baik. Ada begitu banyak bahasa seperti bahasa Indonesia, Spanyol, Cina, Prancis, dll. Tetapi bahasa Inggris selalu digunakan sebagai alat komunikasi antar negara. Menggunakan bahasa Inggris itu berarti mengetahui lebih baik bagaimana berbicara, membaca, mendengarkan dan menulis bahasa Inggris. Yang sulit dari ekspresi dalam bahasa Inggris adalah bagaimana menuliskan bahasa Inggris. Seperti bahasa lain, bahasa Inggris memiliki aturan dan tata bahasa dalam menulis. Dan menulis bahasa Inggris dapat dibagi menjadi dua jenis seperti *academic writing* dan *free writing*. Dari jenis tulisan ini, perbedaan antara keduanya juga terlihat jelas ketika berlatih menulis dalam bahasa Inggris. Untuk *academic writing* adalah tulisan yang biasanya menitikberatkan pada aturan atau mekanisme dalam menulis, jenis tulisan ini selalu digunakan dalam pendidikan formal dan mata pelajaran formal. Untuk mengetahui penulisan akademik diperlukan teori dan juga praktek. Untuk penulisan ini masyarakat harus mengetahui dengan jelas tentang langkah-langkah penulisan akademik. Penulisan ini tidak hanya untuk mentransfer pesan tetapi fokus untuk penataan tulisan yang baik. Sedangkan, *free writing* adalah yang paling sederhana. Penulisan ini tidak membutuhkan teori tetapi dapat dilakukan dengan praktek langsung. Dalam berlatih menulis bebas orang hanya membutuhkan topik atau tema untuk ditulis. Yang penting dalam menulis bebas hanyalah mentransfer pesan atau membuat orang lain mengerti tentang maknanya.

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Kata kunci: Kemampuan Menulis, Menulis Akademik, Menulis Bebas

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INTRODUCTION

Writing is a daily activity. Everybody can do writing everywhere and everywhen. Talking about writing skill it means talking about hobby. When someone really interested in writing so the style of writing will be in a good arrangement. The first step that is important for the writer is that by choosing a topic. But in fact, choosing a topic is not so easy as say it. Choosing a topic is very difficult especially for the beginner, sometimes for the writer who has experience it still take so hard. Some consideration in choosing a topic is that the writer have to follow his desire or his hobby. Second, he/she can choosing the topic that can develop his/her creativity. But another consideration is that the writer can choose the topik because of his/her background of the study. Thats way the topic is so important as the starting point in write something. Writing can express our idea. In which when someone can not express their idea by speaking, they can express it in writing. Kind of writing in English include the writing of literature. Such as poem, poetry and drama. Writing is the skill that can be read and felt.

Writing is the skill someone can blow up their talent, obsession and ambition. Writing can explore the skill by thinking, express and write. Beacuse of the important of writing, writing is a must in an English subject. Students have to pass the writing subject before they can continue to the last or final writing examination. According to Alice Oshima and Ann Hogue (2007:3) writing is divided into two types such as; academic writing and free writing. In which academic writing is the kind of writing used in high school and college classes, then free writing is the kind of writing used to write letters or e-mails to another friend or family.

GENERAL PROBLEM

In English writing skill the problem always face by someone especially who never write before or rarely in writing English. As the beginner or even the master someone have to know about the rule and grammar in writing an English because both of them are different.

For Academic Writing it needs to consider about:

1. The format; when preparing the assignments, follow the direction after the model.
2. The sentence structure; consider the using of sentence include simple sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence and compound-complex sentence.
3. The organization; the writing process in each step.

For free/creative writing is the easiest one. In which someone doesn't have to think hardly how to create writing. Because in free writing its only need to write freely without stopping until someone lost or stop their idea. Without worrying about the sentence whether it is correct or not.

WRITING RESEARCH METHOD

The teaching of writing as an integrated process will continues as usual, like the teaching of reading, normally be deferred until rather advanced courses in English as a foreign language. While the beginning stage of learning writing, write an exercises generally used simply to strengthen the specific grammatical points or lexical items. Furthermore

writing will be treated as end in itself as a complex skill which involve the simultaneous practice of a number of very different abilities. The practice is not same because it is depends on students abilities that some of them are never fully achieved by many students. This condition always happen even though in their native language.

According to David P. Harris (1969;68) Mostly some teacher would probably have the same direction in recognizing the general components in writing, despite the process of writing has been analyzed in several different matter such as :

1. Content, the substance of writing where the author's express their ideas
2. Form, the content organization
3. Grammar, syntactic patterns and grammatical forms
4. Style, the process of structures and lexical items selection to give a specific tone in writing
5. Mechanics, the using of the language graphic convention

From the explanation above, it can be conclude that the writing

process is not easy. It is complicated process. Moreover it is consist of step by step which must be done by the writer. Writing is not a simple process because the writer must have a high skill that combining a variation of several aspects.

According to James Dean Brown (1996;26) language focus into skill areas like reading, writing, listening, and speaking. And language teachers and also testers can benefit from thinking about such subtests in terms of the channel used for communication that is written or oral.

DISCUSSION

Academic writing is a writing that using procedural and mechanism rules. This writing usually use in formal education such as; article, formal letter, thesis, etc. According to Jerry G. Gebhard (1996; 221) the usual things associated with writing are word choice, use of appropriate grammar (such as subject-verb agreement, tense, and article use), syntax (word order), mechanics (e.g., punctuation, spelling, and handwriting), and organization of ideas into a coherent and cohesive form.

For example of Academic Writing;

1. Theformat,

handwritten assigment

Heading

Your name
 Course number
 Due date

Odaita Johnson
Spanish011
May1, 2001

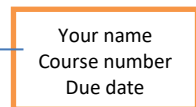
Intoducing Myself

"Hi! I would like to make some introduction in this letter. My name is Odaita Johnson. I am a student from Malang University. I was born in a little town close by San Juano, the capital of our country. I graduated from high school there. I came to Malang, Indonesia two years ago with my uncle and my two brothers. We went to Malang where my uncle Yanuar Achmad lives. We lived with him and his family in their house that located in Margojoyo Malang for six months. He helped my brothers and me to get a job. I work in a shoes factory. The factory is near with my uncle's house. It just need ten minutes to be there. My brothers and I work during the day and go to school at night. I want to quite my job in the factory and go to school full time. I hope to go to college and become a teacher in Malang. I speak Spanish fluently. I don't think I have any other special talents. My hobby is making pictures. I like to go to cinema. That's all."

1. **Paper** Use 8 ½-inch-by-11-inch line. You are permitted to write on one side of the paper.
2. **Ink** Use black color only.
3. **Heading** Please write your complete name on the top left side. Continue with the course number . On the third line, write the date of the assignment as month-day-year.
4. **Assignment Title** put the title on the first line. The position must be center.
5. **Body** The beginning sentence at paragraph must be written differently with the next sentence. The position of the first word located some space from the left part.
6. **Margins** The left and the right side have to leave 1 inch of the paper. It is also same to the bottom of the paper.
7. **Spacing** Every word on writing must have each line form one to another.

Computer – Written Assignment

Heading



Your name
Course number
Due date

Odaita Johnson
Spanish 011
May 1, 2001

Introducing Myself

“Hi! I would like to make some introduction in this letter. My name is Odaita Johnson. I am a student from Malang University. I was born in a little town close by San Juano, the capital of our country. I graduated from high school there. I came to Malang, Indonesia two years ago with my uncle and my two brothers. We went to Malang where my uncle Yanuar Achmad lives. We lived with him and his family in their house that located in Margojoyo Malang for six months. He helped my brothers and me to get a job. I work in a shoes factory. The factory is near with my uncle’s house. It just need ten minutes to be there. My brothers and I work during the day and go to school at night. I want to quite my job in the factory and go to school full time. I hope to go to college and become a teacher in Malang. I speak Spanish fluently. I don’t think I have any other special talents. My hobby is making pictures. I like to go to cinema. That’s all.”

1. **Paper** Use white paper for about 8½ inch by 11 inch
2. **Font** The writer allowed to use Time New Roman or Calibri. Don’t use underlining, italics or bold type. It is incorrect in academic writing. Underlining and italics only used for title or topic.
3. **Heading** Type your complete name in the upper left corner. Type the number of the course and then continue with the date of the assignment by using month-day-year form.
4. **Assignment Title** Enter one line to write the title on center.
5. **Body** You can start your writing by using TAB in order to begin the paragraph.
6. **Margins** Take 1 inch for each left and right margin
7. **Spacing** Double space is allowed.

The sentence structure

A sentence is a group of words that minimally contain of one subject and one verb that expresses something which have a meaning. Generally in English there are four kind of sentences which must understand well.

A simple sentence

In this sentence consist of one subject and verb.

Example :

Film maker George Lucas has changed
S V
the film industry in many ways.

A compound sentence

Sentence called as compound sentence where it is have two simple sentences that connected by comma and conjunction.

Example :

The gold disappeared with the mice, so
S V CC
the greedy man got nothing.
S V

A complex sentence

A complex sentence is a combination of one independent clause and one dependent clause.

Example :

Anna left the party early
Independent clause
because she was tired.
dependent clause

A compound complex sentence

It is a sentence type that combine between compound and complex sentence. Compound complex sentence can be consist of three clauses where minimally each sentence consist of two independent clause and one dependent clause.

Example :

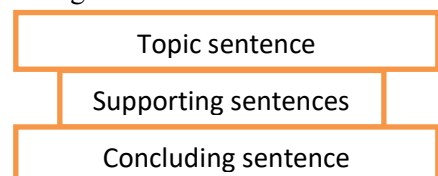
I can start a conversation
Independent clause
that makes people interested, but
dependent clause
it is hard to keep it going
independent clause
because I often run out of things to say.
dependent clause

2. The Organization, include

- Time order signals

Words	Phrases
Finally	At last
First, second, third etc	At 12.00
Meanwhile	After a while
Next	After that
Now	Before beginning the lesson
Soon	The next day

- Topic sentence
- Explain about what kind of topic which going to discussed in a paragraph.
- Supporting sentence
- Add a detail information relate with the topic choose.
- Concluding sentence
Summarizing the text or it can be restatements about the topic by using different words.



- Spatial order
Spatial order are words or phrases that is use to show time order.

Spatial Order Signals

At the top of
In the center
On the left
In front of
Inside
Next to
Between
Behind
In back of
Across

- Logical divisions
It is a form of organization in which the writer divided a topic into several point. Here the writer allow to discuss each point independently about reasons, types, qualities, advantages and disadvantages.
- Coherence
In arranging the sentences from the first until the end of the writing process must have a good coherence.

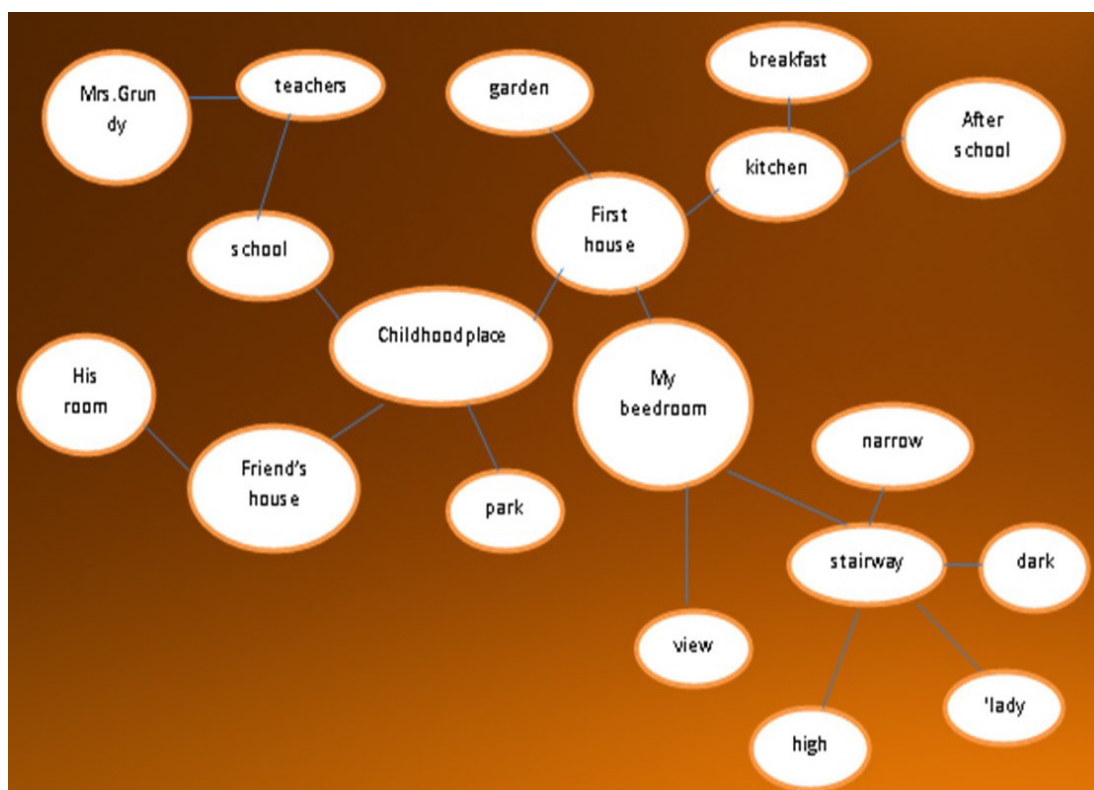
- Block Organization
Categorize all the similarities in one block and also all differences in one block coincide. Both model paragraphs use block organization.
- Point-by-point organization
Write the similarities and differences by using subtopic.
Example:

Free writing or creative writing is the simplest way to write. One way to make it is by clustering. In order to get the idea in free writing, the writer can use clustering technique.

Free writing is a writing that doesn't need a rule or mechanism to write. This writing is usually practice in daily life such as; diary, short message, short letter, etc.

MODEL

A Place from My Childhood



CONCLUSION

Writing skill or writing ability is one of English skill that must be taught for student especially for English students. There are start from writing 1 until writing 4. Writing is so important because it is related with students final examination. And for college students it is related and important for their thesis as the requirements to graduate from university. Many students upset or confuse, looking do not understand

because of some step and rule in English writing but many of them are success in writing. One way to get success in writing skill that is practicing everyday in every moments. Because theory without practice is nothing. As the teacher or the lectures they have to be able to teach every step in writing and they can start with the goal of writing itself. Hopefully this article can be the guide for them who try to increase their skill and their ability in writing especially in

academical writing. There are so many ways to increase writing skill and some of the way are include in these article. The last goal of writing is must be for reading. Someone write something and it will be the reader or the audience. Other one will read our writing, so that the insctruction in writing should be known. The teacher or lectures must guide the students during the writing process in order to produce a good final result of their writing. Simple explanation and practice immediately will be useful for students writing skill mastery.

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