

**TEACHING NARRATIVE PARAGRAPH BY USING CARTOON STRIPS
FOR IMPROVING THE STUDENTS' WRITING COMPETENCY AT THE
SECOND YEAR OF *SMP N 1 PAGENTAN* IN 2007/2008 ACADEMIC YEAR**



RESEARCH PAPER

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by

NUR KHASANAH PRASETIYANI

A 320 030 132

**SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Of the four language skills, writing is the most difficult skill to master. To acquire writing ability the students should get sufficient writing practice. The practice is supposed to stimulate the student's skill in writing and expressing thoughts in a good passage. Practice is very important in developing this skill, because without practice, it is impossible to write English well. Good writing in English requires ability to write good sentences and to organize them logically into paragraphs and essays.

From the result of observation, there some problems faced by the second grade students of SMP N 1 Pagentan. The first is about structure. The student's structure is still low, because they use simple present. In writing legend they should use simple past tense. The researcher also gets difficulty in understanding the story made by the students because the organization is not clear. The second is spelling. From the students writing, it is found many words that are not true in spelling yet. For examples are the words such as *armi*, *maner*, *veri*, *finalli*, *angri*. The third is punctuation. The students do not notice the punctuation in their writing. They write without comma, full stop, and capital letter in the beginning of sentences. The other problems in making narrative paragraph in the second year students at SMP N 1 Pagentan are how to express the idea in writing and

make it good form. They are difficult in finding the idea to make a paragraph. They need much time to develop narrative paragraph. Moreover, there are some students who can not differentiate between narrative and descriptive paragraphs. And then they are also difficult in finding the vocabulary because they are limited in vocabulary mastery. They just write with limited vocabulary.

From the situation above, so it needs media to help the students understand. Sadiman (1993: 29) states that in teaching –learning process, there are some kinds of teaching media which is easy to understand. It is difficult for the students to arrange the words in sentence, paragraph, and paragraphs into a composition in which the message understand and grammatically correct.

The writer uses cartoon strips as a media to make students easy to write narrative paragraph. By giving a certain kinds of cartoon strips, the students are easy to flow their thinking based on that picture. And then, with some words beside the picture, the students are more easy to make good sentence with chronological sequence in a right tenses because there are key word to develop in a paragraph. So, the writer uses cartoon strips as a media to make students easy to write narrative paragraph.

For students, by looking at the cartoon strips which show something, it is more real than work, and it also stimulates students' interest because of their kind, size, form, and color. Besides, using cartoon strip has many advantages such as: practical to use, economical or cheap, and more realistic.

Based on the explanation above, it implies that the use of cartoon strips in teaching can help the students in their achievement. There are some differentiations before using media as cartoon strips and after using it. For examples, the students are easy in making narrative paragraph using cartoon strips, and the students are more interesting in teaching learning process so it makes easy to understand.

So the writer wants to conducts a research with the topic “TEACHING NARRATIVE PARAGRAPH BY USING CARTOON STRIPS FOR IMPROVING THE STUDENTS' WRITING COMPETENCY AT THE SECOND YEAR OF *SMP N 1 PAGENTAN* IN 2007/2008 ACADEMIC YEAR”

B Previous Study

This research has related problem to previous the studies. The first is done by Irma Herawati (2005) entitled “A Correlational Study on Writing Habit, Grammatical Knowledge and Writing Ability of the Fifth Semester Students of English Department of Teacher Training and Education Faculty, Sebelas Maret University in the academic year 2004/2005. Her result shows that there is a positive correlation between writing habit and writing ability. The second previous research is done by Yuniawati (2003) who conducted a research entitled “Grammatical Error in Writing Made by The Third Semester Students of the English Department of the Teacher Training and Education Faculty of Sebelas Maret University in 2001/2002 Academic Year”.

Her conclusion is that the third semester students of English Department of the Teacher Training Faculty of Sebelas Maret University still find difficulties in constructing well-formed sentences.

The similarities of the research are about the object of the study. It is about writing. But this research is different from the research above. The differences are on the media in the research.

C. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above the writer formulates the problems of the study as follows:

1. How is the implementation of teaching narrative paragraph by using cartoon strips in SMP N 1 Pagentan?
2. Does the technique improve the students' writing competence?

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the writer has limitation the problem to make the research easier.

1. The writer only takes the number of the second year students of SMP N I PAGENTAN
2. The study is only focused on the teaching narrative paragraph of the second year students.
3. In this research, the writer only focuses on cartoon strip.
4. Cartoon strip is taken from "English text in use, a Coursebook for SMA/MA Students"

E. Objective of the Study

1. To describe the implementation of teaching narrative paragraph by using cartoon strips
2. To improve the students writing competence

F. Benefit of the Study

The result of this research is expected to give some benefits:

1. Theoretical benefits

Theoretically, there are some benefits of this research

- a. The result of the research can be used as an input in English Teaching-Learning process especially in teaching narrative paragraph.
- b. The result of the research can be used as a reference for people who want to conduct a research in English teaching-learning process

2. Practical benefit

Practically, there are some benefits of this research for the writer, teacher, student, and other researcher

- a. For the teacher
 - 1). The result of this research will be some input to the teacher in the teaching writing especially in narrative paragraph
 - 2). The result of this research will be direction to find problem solving of the teaching writing especially in narrative paragraph

- 3). It will be direction for the teacher to choose method and technique in teaching narrative paragraph
- b. For the students
 - 1). Using cartoon strips, the students can understand the material about narrative paragraph easily.
 - 2) Be motivated to learn English in other words, study English as foreign language becomes interesting and challenging.

G. Research Paper Organization

The writer is going to discuss five chapters in this research. Chapter I is introduction that consists of background of the study, review of previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, the benefit of the study, and research paper organization

Chapter II is a review of related literature that presents Learning English as Foreign Language, Teaching Writing in Junior High School, Notion of Narrative Paragraph, Notion of Teaching Media, and Notion of Cartoon Strips

Chapter III is Research Method relate to Type of Research, Object of the Study, Subject of the Study, Data and Source of Data, Method of Collecting Data, and Technique for Analyzing Data.

Chapter IV deals with the teaching implementation containing the procedure in teaching narrative paragraph by using cartoon strips, the problems that appear in teaching narrative paragraph using cartoon strips, and the result of teaching narrative paragraph using cartoon strips

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.