

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

In writing, the student must pay attention to several things, starting from the vocabulary use, then the grammar that will make the sentence structure good and correct. Fourth-semester students' have received writing material. Writing is very helpful for students to apply the four skills contain in English. There are several types of the texts, namely: narrative, descriptive, report, explanation, analytical exposition, hortatory exposition, procedure, discussion, review, anecdote, spoof, and news item. From the several types of text above, the researcher wants to analyze one type of text, namely descriptive text.

Writing descriptive text is part of writing skills that also need attention. Writing is essential knowledge, which knows what is in the mind and then poured into written form. Knowledge here is not only in the form of words or phrases but can also be in the form of pictures, a combination of ideas and images, and everything that is in the mind. Writing is regarded as the most difficult and sophisticated language skill because it necessitates a high level of perception and heavily involves the thinking process. In writing, there are several types of text that must be known, namely: expository, descriptive, persuasive and narrative text. The researcher wants to focus on one type of text, namely the type of descriptive text.

Through the researcher preliminary observation on February 18 by using WhatsApp media, the researcher found that most students had difficulty in writing descriptive text. This difficulty is the absence of student interest in re-learning the material provided. Then, the students' errors in vocabulary made it difficult for them to write a text. Most students gave the answer that they were errors in vocabulary so that when the lecturer gave assignments to write text they had difficulty. The last, difficulty in grammar arrangement, this also often makes students experience difficulties in writing descriptive text.

From the explanation above, the researcher is interested to make research entitled "Analysis of Fourth-Semester Students' Difficulties in Writing Descriptive Text at English Language Education Study Program Sintuwu Maroso University".

B. Problem Formulation

The researcher formulated the problem formulation as follows:

1. What are the fourth-semester students' difficulties in writing descriptive text at English Language Education Study Program Sintuwu Maroso University?
2. What are the factors causing fourth-semester students difficulties in writing descriptive text at English Language Education Study Program Sintuwu Maroso University?

C. Objectives of the Research

The objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To find out the fourth-semester students' difficulties in writing descriptive text at English Language Education Study Program Sintuwu Maroso University.
2. To find out the factors of causing fourth-semester students' difficulties in writing descriptive text at English Language Education Study Program Sintuwu Maroso University.

D. Significances of the Research

The significances of this research are expected to be useful for:

1. For Lecturers

This research can help lecturers to determine the students' difficulties in writing descriptive texts and it is hoped that the lecturer can pay more attention to the causes of students experiencing difficulties in writing descriptive texts.

2. For Students

This research is expected to be useful for students to pay more attention to the things that cause them difficulties in writing this descriptive text.

3. For other researchers

This research can be used as a reference to support their research on analyzing the difficulties experienced by students and what causes students to experience difficulties in descriptive texts.

E. Scope of the Research

This research focused to find out the difficulties and factors of causing that students' have in writing descriptive text. To know the students' difficulties in writing, the researcher asked the students' to write a descriptive text and the researcher will give the topic for the student, and the students' create their own titles. The students' have to write at least 200 words. The subject of this research is students' from fourth-semester in English Department. The researcher used theory from: Brown (2004) and Ismayanti (2020).

F. Definition of Terms

There are several key terms used in this research as the key words. They are defined as follows:

1. Students Difficulties

Student difficulties are conditions where students are not able to understand the process and objectives of learning.

2. Writing descriptive text

Writing descriptive text is a type of text that aims to be describing a single location, person, thing, event, place, or object.

3. English Language Education Study Program

The English Language Study Program prepares students' to be professional, moral, and superior graduates with a Bachelor of English Education in teaching English.

