STUDENTS' STRATEGIES IN WRITING PROPOSAL THESIS AT ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM OF KHAIRUN UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRAK

The purpose of this study was to know the students' strategies in writing proposal thesis at English Study Program of Khairun University. This study uses a qualitative method. Ten students participated in this research. The data analyzed was used contend analyze and the data collection technique used in this study was interviewed. the result showed that There were 8 out of 10 respondents involved in this research are able to determine their strategies and concepts used in writing proposal thesis then also from 2 out of 10 respondents did not have the strategies or concepts that used in writing proposal thesis and in writing proposal thesis most of students obtained score 42% which is known as pre writing strategy then the second, students obtained score 33% which is known as while writing strategy and the third students obtained 25 which is known as post writing strategy.

Keywords: *Students' Strategies, Writing Proposal Thesis*

INTRODUCTION

Writing is one of the important part of skills in learning English, although, in learning English there are several skills that must be mastered by the students, they are speaking, reading, writing and listening. Writing is a part of how to express ideas, opinion which still keeping in our mind, writing skill also important in profeesional setting, require for recording information, reporting news, and in today is a world the necessary task of completing e-mile, twiter, texting and others froms of rapidly. Therefore, The fourth basic English language skills are divided into two categories such as receptive skills and productive skills. Reading and listening are considered receptive skills whereas speaking and writing are known as productive skills. The students start learning to communicate through written form as they begin to interact with others at school level (Javed, 2013:130).

In undergraduating students (S1) has the end goal of the study to complete the final task or thesis. Thesis is a scientific paper based on the results of field research or literature study prepared in accordance with the students' study program as the final at University. Thesis also has an important role as a means to measure how far science has been obtained by the students. In spite of it, the thesis is also an honor for the students concerned.

The thesis is an obligation that must be taken and completed the student as a condition for obtaining a degree. The researcher also find many obstacles and challenge by the students', such as, difficulty in deciding topic, lack of adequate knowledge in methodology, inability to find current trends, lack of subject understanding, lack of research guiding, it all makes the students' blank when they start to write, they were still confused and do not know how to begin in writing proposal thesis because they do not have strategy to write. Suryatiningsih (2019:96), Writing a research proposal and arouse the curiosity of researcher interested in conducting in depth research and know about research proposal writing especially in element that are the research proposal. And, Thesis is

a piece of writing that provides information about particular topic that you have researched (Puspita, 2019).

1. Definition of writing

Writing is one of the language skills between others skill to express ideas used written form, in the distribution of language skills, Writing also as a productive skill is considered more difficult than other skill because in writing we need to be active to express our smart opinions and ideas. According to Linse cited in (Pratiwi, 2011), stated writing is productive skills because the focus is on producing information. However when they are writing, they clearly have more time to think about what they want to say than speaking. This is why their sentences need to be correct. So writing can make us more carefully in using words when we beging to write and also do not make the readers misunderstand, writing can be satisfying if we master vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and idiom. Puspita (2019:14),Writing is a way of expressing ideas in order to communicate with others. In writing, any ideas that you advance must be supported with specific reasons or details. By writing, a writer can express his/her thoughts or ideas on the paper.

2. The steps of Writing process

There are six steps in writing process According to Zemach & Rumisek (2003:3-4), as follows:

a. Pre-Writing

First step- Choose a topic. Before you write, your teacher gives you a specific assignment or some ideas of what to write about. If not, choose you topic by yourself. Second step- Gather ideas. When you have a topic, think about what you write about that topic. Third step- Organise. Decide which of the ideas you want to use and where you want to use them. Choose which ideas you to talk about first, whict to talk about next and which to talk about last.

b. Drafting (while writing)

Fourth step- Write. Write your paragraph or essay from start to finish. Use your notes about your ideas and organisation.

c. Reviewing and revising (post writing)

Fifth step- Review structure and content. Check what you have written. Read your writing silently to yourself or aloud, perhaps to a friend. Look for a places where you can add more informations, and check to see if you have any unnecessary informations.

d. Rewriting

Sixth step- Revising structure and content. Use your ideas for step five to rewrite your text, making improvements to the structure and content. You might need to explain something more clearly, or add more details. You may even need to change your organisation so that your text is more logical. Together, step five and six can be called editing. Proofread. Read your text again, this time, check your spelling and grammar and think about the words you have choosen to use. Make final corrections. Check that you havre corrected the errors you discovered the steps five and six and make any others changes you want to make.

3. Brainstorming

Most problems are not solved automatically by the first idea that comes to mind. To get to the best solution it is important to consider many possible solutions. One of the best ways is brainstorming. Mogahed (2013), Brainstorming is a useful way of getting started or generating new

ideas. Once learners are familiar with the process, they can use this activity on their own when they are stuck, revising their work, or moving on to a new phase.

4. Free writing

According to Robinson cite in (Sa'adah, 2020), he said that in freewriting, the first you think in English and then you write what you think. It means that students just sit down with pen and paper, and write anything that comes to the mind without worrying about all spelling, grammar, or the like. According to Hogue, freewriting is a way to get ideas. When your freewriting, you choose a topic and then you sit down and write whatever sentences come into your mind about the topic, don't worry about grammar, spelling, or punctuation, and don't worry about putting the ideas in order

5. Clustering

According to Scholes cite in (Mogahed, 2013), adds that clustering, or grouping ideas is a good way for writers who think spatially. In addition to illustration using circles and lines, writers can also construct clusters with either tree diagrams or balloons and strings.

Based on the classification and clarification above it can be concluded if in writing we need carefully in deciding, involve the topic which is choosen by writer then begin to write what is gathered by ideas for express and to give important information to the reader, in order to, the reader does not face the difficulties to read and find the information in oral written form and more easy to understand.

6. Proposal Thesis

According to Murray (2011:2-3), Writing a thesis is a completely new task for most postgraduate students. It brings new demands. It is a far bigger project than most students will ever have undertaken before. It requires more independent study, more self-motivation. There is much less continuous assessment. It is likely to be the longest piece of continuous writing you have ever done. Writing a thesis is not a completely new experience. It does build on your previous studies. Skills you developed in undergraduate years and elsewhere will be useful. Time management is a prime example. The subject of your thesis may build upon existing knowledge of, for example, theoretical approaches or the subject itself. The discipline of study, or regular work, is just as important as in other forms of study you have undertaken at other level.

7. Problems in Writing Proposal Thesis

Xia & Luxin (2012:130-134), In writing the proposal, the students mainly had problems in determining the research topic, making a feasible research design, organizing their writing logically, and giving a critical review of previous studies, and having sufficient theoretical knowledge.

a. Topic choice

To find their own research interests. Nevertheless, they varied in the process of narrowing down the research topics and defining the research questions.

b. Research design

Making a feasible research design was really a challenge for these students, who had never previously conducted academic research. Due to different research fields, their problems in this aspect were diverse.

c. Structure and organization

As they had little training in academic writing, the students found it challenging to organize literature and relevant information in a clear and logical way in writing. "Logic" was a frequently mentioned word in their interviews to express their difficulty in writing.

d. Critical review Academic

English writing required writers to be critical and logical in expressing personal ideas.

e. Theoretical knowledge

Insufficient knowledge about relevant theory also hindered them from developing their research proposals. With limited theoretical knowledge, the students could not draw a clear picture about the development of the specific research field they were going to study.

METHODOLOGY

1. Research Design

In conducting this research, the researcher applies "qualitative method" because in this research intend to explore students' strategies in writing proposal thesis at Khairun University. Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. The process of research involves emerging questions and procedures, data typically collected in the participant's setting, data analysis inductively building from particulars to general themes, and the researcher making interpretations of the meaning of the data, Stated by Creswell (2014:32). And it is supported by Nassaji (2015), Qualitative research, however, is more holistic and often involves a rich collection of data from various sources to gain a deeper understanding of individual participants, including their opinions, perspectives, and attitudes. So, in this research it was employ qulitative method.

2. Technique of Data Collections

In this research, the researcher use the instrument in collecting the data is interview.

a. Interview

Interview is a technique of collecting data through interview process that goes in one direction that was the question which came from the interview and the answers given by those interviewed. Interview seeks to describe the meanings of central themes in the life world of the subjects. The main task in interviewing is to understand the meaning of what the interviewes say, Stated by Bernard (2006:2).

b. Data

This data is obtained from the students' who will get interview and questionnaire by the researcher based on the point of interviews and questionnaire to analyse.

3. Technique of Data Analysis

The data was analysed based on Miles & A. Huberman (2016),

Based on the statement above, the researcher conducts data analysis into four phases. The four phases of analysis data are as follows:

a. Data Collection

In this case the researcher will learn all of the data that have been collected the field which about the students problems and the students strategies in writing proposal thesis.

b. Data Reduction

In the reduction process, the researcher does selection and chooses the data that relevant of the study. It focuses on the data directly to solve the problem or to answer the research. Further, simplicity of the data and arrange question.

c. Data Display

The Researcher gives explanation in data display, so the result of the data reduction made in report systematically which can be understood and reasonable of the data namely gotten in the field by the researcher.

    d.   Data Conclusion

The conclusion verified by looking back of the data reduction, data display before and after collecting the data. So, conclusion that taken are not deviate from the problems of the study.

DISCUSSION

There were 8 out of 10 respondents involved in this research are able to determine their strategies and concepts used in writing proposal thesis in completing proposal thesis, that is why, they did not face more difficulties then could write their proposal thesis till finishing without confused.

Meanwhile, from 2 out of 10 respondents did not have the strategies or concepts that used in writing proposal thesis, that is why, they had major problems and often confused cause they did not know how to begin their writing proposal thesis, they claimed that in writing proposal thesis they had difficulties in finding references also.
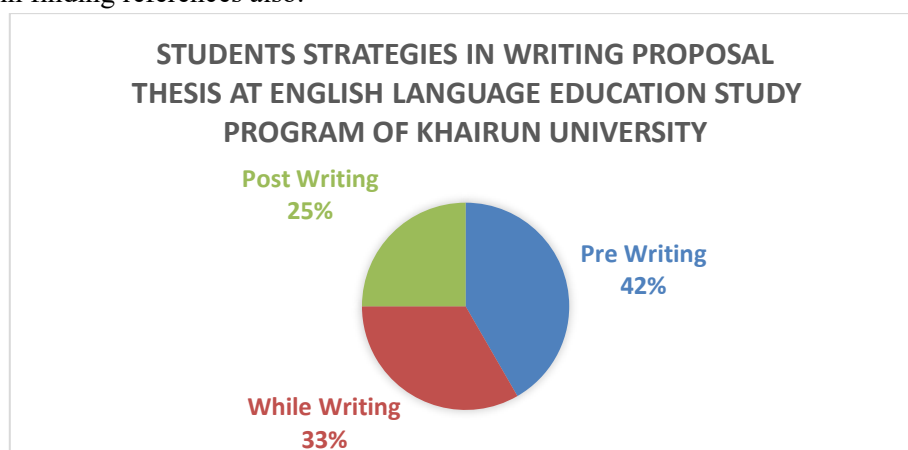
Gambar 1. Studets Strategies in writing proposal Thesis

From the findings, the researcher found that students' strategies in writing proposal thesis showed that most of students obtained score 42% which is known as pre writing strategy then the second, students obtained score 33% which is known as while writing strategy and the third students obtained 25 which is known as post writing strategy. The data analysis includes the students' strategies used in writing proposal thesis, including in pre writing, while writing and post writing strategies.

The findings were obtained from interview data based on main point with seven questions, 10 respondents were asked to speak freely about the major problem that they found during the process of writing. Therefore, in these findings the problems were found by the researcher from interview data, for example, A.A. stated, "*the first stage we must understood writing proposal or thesis, it could not separated with the background from general to specifically it also could not separated with the title was chosen*". In addition, R.F.M. said, "*The fist process in determine my the title, I search the journal in electronic media then consulting with the academic advisor for getting exam. The stages, I only focus on the structure of writing in journal, starting from chapter I chapter II and III so I can write*. And He also said "*In writing process I did change in writing thesis, one of them are background, sometimes the explanation is reversed and also the grammatical*".

Meanwhile, respondents used main mapping in pre writing strategy, for examples, B.D.P. pointed out "*As a beginner consulting title has become our obligation and then whatever points is written exactly in chapter I background of the research, objective of the research, statement of the problem and then in chapter II the points the definitions according to the experts, then in chapter III how our research method.* In addition, M.R.L, stated "*The first is consulting the title with academic advisor and the head of English study program, after that I got examined, then, I make one main mapping from the title and arranged stage by stage the point.* And also N.D.A, stated, "*The first process is choose the title based on my skill in learning poetry, I choose this title relate with the thing. And doing the process consulting then accepting with the advisor and I fixed with this title.* And also she said, *The stages I do after determine the title, I search the reference relevant with my title then I analyze how the first stage in writing a proposal.*

Some respondents used brainstorming, for examples, F.A, pointed out, "*I see the problems before start to write proposal thesis about pronunciation and I search the references from electronic sources and consulted with advisors.* And He also said "*The stages was passed by me, I search few references from social media and consulting with the academic advisor and then to the coordinator of study program, Mrs N' and getting Acc and I getting exam of my title*". The problems with the strategies in their writing process of proposal thesis which involves pre writing, while writing and post writing.

CONCLUSION

In this writing proposal thesis, the students who had passed their proposal thesis preparation and who still facing their proposal thesis preparation at English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University involved in this research, 8 out of 10 respondents involved in this research are able to determine their strategies and concepts used in writing proposal thesis in completing proposal thesis, that is why, they did not face more difficulties then could write their proposal thesis till finishing without confused.

Meanwhile, from 2 out of 10 respondents did not have the strategies or concepts that used in writing proposal thesis, that is why, they had major problems and often confused cause they did not know how to begin their writing proposal thesis, they claimed that in writing proposal thesis they had difficulties in finding references also.

The researcher concluded that students' strategies in writing proposal thesis showed that most of students obtained score 42% which is known as pre writing strategy then the second, students obtained score 33% which is known as while writing strategy and the third students obtained 25 which is known as post writing strategy.

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