

ABSTRACT

Sari, Cintana Indah. 2018, *An Analysis of the Third Year Students Ability in Writing Cause – Effect Paragraph at English Department of Bung Hatta University*, Thesis, English Department, Teacher Training and Education Faculty, Bung Hatta University Padang.

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The research was aimed to describe the third year students' ability to write cause – effect paragraph at English Department of Bung Hatta University. The researcher found out that many students had problems. The students still have lack of grammar, content, and they did not master vocabulary. Additionally, they were not interested in writing.

The design of the research was descriptive method. The population of the research was the third year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University. The total population of the research was 31 students. The researcher used total sampling technique to select the sample. The total number of sample members was 31. The data were collected by using writing test in the form of writing cause – effect paragraph, and the reliability index was .75 (see Appendix 4). It means that the test has high reliability.

Based on the result of data analysis, it is indicated that the third year students' ability in writing cause – effect paragraph at Bung Hatta University in general was very good. It was proved by the fact that 32.26% of them (10 students) got very good ability (see Appendix 6). The students' ability to write topic sentence of cause – effect paragraph was very good. It was proved by the fact that there were 48.39% of them (15 students) got very good ability (see Appendix 8). The students' ability to write supporting sentences of cause – effect paragraph was low. It was proved by the fact that there were 51.61% (16 students) got low ability (see Appendix 10). The students' ability to write concluding sentences of cause – effect paragraph was low. It was proved by the fact that there were 77.42% (24 students) got low ability (see Appendix 12). The students' ability to use correct grammar in writing cause – effect paragraph was very good. It was proved by the fact that there were 51.61% (16 students) got very good ability (see Appendix 14). The students' ability to use appropriate vocabulary in writing cause – effect paragraph was very good. It was proved by the fact that there were 93.55% (29 students) got very good ability (see Appendix 16). The students' ability to use correct mechanics in writing cause – effect paragraph was low. It was proved by the fact that there were 80.65% (25 students) got low ability (see Appendix 18).

Finally, based on the findings, the researcher concluded that the third year students' ability to write cause – effect paragraph was good. Related to the conclusion, she suggested that the lecturers should give more practices of several aspects of cause – effect paragraph; topic sentence, supporting sentences, concluding sentence, grammar, vocabulary and mechanics in order that the students' ability to write cause – effect paragraph will be improved. The researcher suggests the students to do more practice in writing cause – effect paragraph, and to pay attention to the components of cause – effect paragraph.

Key words: *Writing Skill, Paragraph, Cause – Effect Paragraph*