

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS' ABILITY
IN WRITING A PERSONAL LETTER AT SMPN 2 MADOBAG**

THESIS

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The writer

ABSTRACT

Supina (2018): *An Analysis of the Second Year Students' Ability in Writing a Personal Letter at SMPN 2 Madobag*

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2. Dr. H. Welya Roza, M.Pd

This research aimed to found out the second year students' ability in writing a personal letter at SMPN 2 Madobag.

The design of this research was descriptive. The population of this research was second year students at SMPN 2 Madobag. The total number of sample were 30 students, but when the writer conducted research, one of the students was absent because the student was sick. Therefore, the subject of the research was 29 students. The data were collected through writing test. The writer asked the students to reply a personal letter in 50 minutes. The writer only measured the second year students' ability in writing a personal letter by considering four components of writing: organization, mechanics, grammar, and vocabulary. The first one, the writer presented the raw score of each sample, calculated the score, calculated the average score from first scorer and second scorer, classified the students who had high ability, moderate ability, and low ability, and the last the writer counted the percentage of them.

Based on the result of the data analysis, the second year students' ability in writing a personal letter was moderate. In details, there were 26 students (89.7%) (see Appendix 6) who had moderate in writing organization, 21 students (72,4%)(see Appendix 7) who had moderate ability in applying mechanics, 26 students (89.7%)(see Appendix 8), who had moderate ability in applying grammar, and 14 students (48.3%) (see Appendix 9),who had moderate ability using appropriate vocabulary,

Based on the research findings, the writer concludes that the second year students' ability in writing personal letter was moderate. Related to the conclusion, the writer suggests English teachers to give more exercises and employ more effective technique of teaching writing. In addition, the students are suggested to do more exercises to improve their ability in writing.

Key wordss: Writing, short functional text, personal let

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