AN ANALYSIS OF THE TENTH GRADE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXTS USING A PICTURE ON INSTAGRAM AT MAN KOTA SOLOK

THESIS

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BUNG HATTA UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

Amanda, A. A. 2023. *An Analysis of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing Descriptive Texts Using a Picture on Instagram at Man Kota Solok*

Advisor: Dr. Lely Refnita, M.Pd.

The purpose of this study is to describe the ability of tenth grade students in writing descriptive text using pictures on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok in the academic year 2022/2023. The researcher used a descriptive method for this study. The sample of this study were tenth grade students of X MIPA 1 and X MIPA 2 at MAN Kota Solok. The researcher used a purposive sampling technique to select samples, and the number of samples was 63 students. The instrument to collect data in this study was a writing test on Instagram. In order for the test to be reliable, the researcher used the inter-rater method. The results to have got test, the test analysis showed that the test was reliable. This is supported by the fact that the correlation coefficient is 0.986. This is greater than the r table value at df 60 and alpha 0.05 (0.250). Then the test was valid in terms of content as it covered all the material that the students had learned.

In general, the students had high proficiency in writing descriptive texts (develop to content, to organize, using vocabulary, using grammar, and using mechanics). This is supported by the fact that 38 students (60.32%) had a high ability in writing descriptive text. In detail, 6 students (9,52%) had high ability and 57 students (90,48%) had low ability to develop the content of descriptive text. 24 students (38,10%) had high ability and 39 students (61,90%) had low ability to organize descriptive text. 43 students (68,26%) had high ability and 20 students (31,74%) had low ability to use grammar in writing a descriptive text. 51 students (80,95%) had high ability and 12 students (19,05%) had low ability to use mechanic in writing a descriptive text. 59 students (93,65%) had high ability and 4 students (6,35%) had low ability to use vocabulary in writing a descriptive text.

By finding out the that students had high ability, the researcher provide suggestions to teachers, students, and future researchers to be able to use Instagram as a medium and can develop other more innovative media.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT……**i**
ABSTRACT……...**iii**
TABLE OF CONTENTS……...**v**
LIST OF TABLES……..**viii**
LIST OF APPENDICES……..**ix**
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION……..**1**

1.1 The Background of the Problem 1
1.2 The Identification of the Problem .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.3 The Limitation of the Problem .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.4 The Formulation of the Problem .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.5 Research Questions.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.6 The Purposes of the Research .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.7 The Significance of the Research.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
1.8 The Definition of Key Terms.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE Error! Bookmark not defined.

2.1 The Definitions of Writing.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.2 The Components of Writing.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.3 The Procedures of Writing.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.4 The Definition of Descriptive Text .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.5 The Purpose of Descriptive Text.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.6 The Definitios of Picture ……..…12
2.7 Instagram, Its Features, and Benefits .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.8 Review of Previous Study.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
2.9 Theoretical Framework.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

3.1 Research Design ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

3.2 Population and Sample ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

3.3 Instrument ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

3.4 Technique of Collecting Data ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

3.5 Technique of Analyzing Data ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION ..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

4.1 Findings ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.1 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.2 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Develop the Content of a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.3 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability Related to Organize a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.4 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Vocabulary in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.5 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Grammar in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.1.6 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Mechanics in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2 Discussions ..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

4.2.1 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2.2 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Develop the Content of a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2.3 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability Related to Organize a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2.4 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Vocabulary in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2.5 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Grammar in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

4.2.6 The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Mechanics in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

CHAPTER V CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS... Error! Bookmark not defined.

1. Conclusions .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

2. Suggestions.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

REFERENCES..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

APPENDICES……..……44

LIST OF TABLES

Page

Table 3.1: The Distribution of Population Numbers……..**20**

Table 3.2: Scoring Criteria……...……..**24**

Table 3.3: KKM/Criteria Based on MAN Kota Solok……...**27**

Table 4.1: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok…….……**29**

Table 4.2: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Develop the Content of a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok…….....**30**

Table 4.3: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Organize a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..**31**

Table 4.4: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Vocabulary in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok…….……**32**

Table 4.5: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Grammar in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..……...**33**

Table 4.6: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Mechanics in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……...**34**

LIST OF APPENDICES

Page

Appendix 1 : Instrument……..….**44**

Appendix 2 : Students' Scores in Writing a Descriptive Text by First Scorer…….**45**

Appendix 3 : Students' Scores in Writing a Descriptive Text by Second Score……..……**49**

Appendix 4 : Reliability Analysis by Using Pearson Product Moment Formula……**53**

Appendix 5 : The Classification of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok..…….……..**55**

Appendix 6 : The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok…….…**56**

Appendix 7 : The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Organize of a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..……..…...**58**

Appendix 8 : The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Develop the Content of a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok…….…..…….……...**60**

Appendix 9 : The Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Grammar in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..……..…..**62**

Appendix 10: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Mechanics in Writing a Descriptive Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..……....**64**

Appendix 11: The Percentage of the Tenth Grade Students' Ability to Use Vocabulary in Writing a Descriptive

Text Using a Picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok……..**66**

Appendix 12: Table of Critical Values for Pearson's r……...…….**68**

Appendix 13: Research Permission Letter……...…….**69**

Appendix 14: Research Permission Letter From Kementrian Agama……....**70**

Appendix 15: Letter of Completion of Research……..**71**

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses about the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, research questions, the purposes of the research, and the definition of the key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Problem

English is an international language that is used as the main language in several countries. In Indonesia, even though English is a foreign language, it is one of the subjects that students must learn at school. In English, there are 4 skills that must be mastered: reading, speaking, listening, and writing.

Writing skill is the ability to express ideas in a word that has meaning. According to some students, writing skills are considered the most difficult ability to master compared to other language skills. Writing skills are obtained from the training process. Writing skills cannot be obtained simply by studying grammar and studying knowledge of writing theory, let alone memorizing the definitions of terms contained in the field of writing. Writing is also a skill that requires the writer to master various elements outside of the language itself which will become the content of a piece of writing (Nurgiyantoro, 2001:271).

There are several types of text in learning English such as descriptive text, explanation text, recount text, narrative text, report text, news item text, procedure text, and exposition text. Descriptive text is a text that describes an object such as

animals, locations, and others. Usually, the descriptive text focuses on one object and is described in detail and based on facts, so that readers can imagine the object being described.

Writing descriptive text is one of the tenth grade materials studied in high school and must be mastered by students but this is not an easy thing. Based on the results of observations when teaching practice at MAN Kota Solok, the researcher found that some students experienced difficulties when writing a descriptive text, such as the use of mechanics which were often wrong, the use of incorrect grammar, lack of vocabulary, and difficulty in developing an idea. Nowadays almost every student has an Instagram, so it can be used as a medium to train students' skills in expressing their ideas and thoughts.

Instagram is now one of the most used social media. Kessler (2013:615) states that Instagram is a unique way for teachers and students to connect and share information. Instagram can also be a medium that can be used by teachers to make learning more innovative and interesting so that students are more interested in learning. In this activity, teachers and students can post interesting pictures and write descriptive text with the theme given by the teacher.

Several researchers conducted research on students' ability to write descriptive text on Instagram, such as Hilman in 2019 from Galuh University. The title of the thesis is "*The effectiveness of using Instagram in developing students' descriptive text writing*". The research subject was class X Islamic Senior High School (MA) in Tasikmalaya. The results of this study showed that Instagram can

contribute to writing descriptive text so that it can improve students' abilities in writing descriptive and the results are quite good although there are elements that need to be improved.

Insani in 2020 from Muhammadiyah University of Makassar wrote a thesis entitled *"The use of Instagram to improve students' writing skills in descriptive text".* The research subject was the tenth grade of SMAN 2 Wajo. The result of this study showed that the use of Instagram can improve students' writing skills, especially writing descriptive text at the tenth grade of SMAN 2 Wajo. This is proven by the increase of students' average score from the pre-test to the post-test.

Based on the description above, the researcher was interested in analyzing students' writing skills using Instagram as a supporting medium in the learning process. Therefore, the research conducted by the researcher is entitled "*An analysis of the tenth grade students' ability in writing the descriptive texts using a picture on Instagram at MAN Kota Solok*".