

AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' ESSAY AT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF
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ABSTRACT

This article discusses about the students' problem in making an essay. The purpose of this article was to find out the students' problem in making an essay. Object of this article was students' essay that took by random sampling. The instrument used in this article were a test, interview and documentation. From the analysis it was found that the student was the difficulty to develop the ideas, lack of understanding in citing of experts' opinion, and the lack of references. It can conclude that the basic problem of makin essay was the english department did not have a complete facilities to support the students' skill.

Keywords: *Analysis, Essay, students*

INTRODUCTION

A definition essay is writing that explains what a term means. Some terms have definite, concrete meanings, such as glass, book, or tree. Terms such as honesty, honor, or love are abstract and depend more on a person's point of view. An essay is a formal, coherent and usually quite lengthy piece of informative and argumentative writing, as are its cousins, the article and the report, to which devote my main attention in the two chapters following this one (Palmer, 2002: 132). It means essay is the informative writing that talks the factual information.

Essay consist of several parts, part of essay is introduction Paragraph, the introduction paragraph is the first paragraph of your essay (Richard: 2009). It introduces the main idea of your essay. A good opening paragraph captures the interest of your reader and tells why your topic is important. Supporting Paragraph, supporting paragraphs make up the main body of your essay. They develop the main idea of your essay. To connect your supporting paragraphs, you should use special transition words. Transition words link your paragraphs together and make your essay easier to read. Use

them at the beginning and end of your paragraphs. Summary Paragraph, the summary paragraph comes at the end of your essay after you have finished developing your ideas. The summary paragraph is often called a "conclusion." It summarizes or restates the main idea of the essay. You want to leave the reader with a sense that your essay is complete.

A good essay should follow structure; introduction, main body and conclusion (Palmer, 2002:132). Introduction consist of define any key terms. State what you propose to do in the assignment/your objectives. Main body/development consist of your main points/arguments and supporting evidence/examples, in a sensible order. Conclusion consist of a summary of what you have said/argued/discovered so far, A conclusion about how you have fulfilled your objectives. Any recommendations you can make as a result of your work.

Concept essay are the ones that are based on one ideas and concept off course. Concept essay require more exploration, concept essay too contain an introduction, a body with 4-5 paragraph of explanation, including the examples and a conclusion. Secondly, Apart from other essay, concept essay require more exploration, ideas and research than other

do. Because, the concept is already introduced to the audience, one has to deliver the perfect and accurate definition, which is a tough job. Then, Selection of a topic, the major part of your essay is the selection of your topic, if you have selected a topic that is very controversial, and then it is going to be helpful for you. Needs a good start, a good start for a concept essay is, to start your introduction with a narration, which would make it easier to continue to deliver what you exactly wanted to. The last, Target audience, you must know who is your target audience and what do they want to read. To make your essay more effective and catchy you would need to work on its structure. Structure need to be built more precisely to grab the attention of your examiner or reader.

There are several things that must be considered in making criticisms and essays of a literary work, which are as follows:

1. Each competent should pay attention to the various matters contained in any literature.
2. Accuracy in expressing what is in the literary work depends on the level of sharpness feeling of critics.
3. Critics order to capture the personality of a literary work must go through an artistic recreation.
4. The critic must know the language used by the writer or should be familiar with the various types of language styles / idiom, composition, cultural background.

a. Types of essay

There are some kinds of essay; descriptive essays, heading essay, personal essays, reflective essays, essaycriticism as follows:

1. Descriptive Essay.

Descriptive essay can write any subject or an object that can attract the attention of the author. He was able to describe a house, shoes, recreation and so on. Keep in mind that every object,

phenomenon, or event can be viewed from different angles by different individuals.

2. Heading essay.

This type can be found in newspapers and magazines. This essay has a special function, which describes the views and attitudes of newspapers / magazines on the topics and issues in the community.

3. Personal Essay.

This essay is almost the same as the essay depicting the character. However, a personal essay written by the person about himself. The author will declare "I am me. I'll tell you my life and my view of life". He opened the curtain on himself.

4. Reflective essay.

A reflective essay is written formally in a serious tone. The author reveals the deep, earnest, and be careful of some important topics related to life, such as death, politics, education, and human nature. This essay is addressed to scholars.

5. Essays Criticism.

In the essay writers critique focuses on the description of the art, for example, painting, dance, sculpture, sculpture, theater, literature. The essay can be written critique of traditional art, the work of an artist in the past, about contemporary art.

b. Characteristics essay

The essay has some characteristics which are as follows:

1. Shaped prose, that means in the form of regular communication, avoiding the use of figurative language and expression.
2. Short, that can be read with ease within two hours.
3. A distinctive style. A good essay writer will bring the characteristic and distinctive style, which distinguishes the writing style of other writers.
4. The integrity of writing. Although the essay is writing that is not intact, but it must have unity, and meet the

requirements of writing, ranging from the introduction, development up to termination. In it there is coherence and logical conclusion. Authors must put forward his arguments and does not let the reader hanging in the air.

5. Having a personal tone or personal nature, which distinguishes the essay with other types of literary works, is a personal characteristic. Personal traits in essay writing are the author's own disclosure about selfhood, his views, his attitude, his mind, and suspicions to the reader.

c. How to write an essay

There are several items must be considered in essay writing:

1. The suitability of the theme and content writing
2. The power of opinion and argument
3. Creativity and ideas

d. Elements of essays

1. The introduction, which contains background or introduction to the issues to be discussed. Introduction or abstract serves to give an idea of the content of the essay to the reader. This is the part where we can answer questions and provide summaries and content argument. Tell readers what your argument and convinced that it is the right answer. Make a brief abstract and dense, but do not forget to ask all the ideas /ideas in it. Abstract usually contains a reference, etymology, and background.
2. Content / ideas / discussion, which contains ideas and opinions writer argument accompanied with strong arguments and coupled with the insight and creativity of thinking. This will strengthen the essays we write. If necessary, give solutions or solving problems that are being addressed. It is important to structure the contents as possible. If the question consists of several parts, need to be made relating to the

arrangement of the contents of each part of these pertain.

The conclusions, which contains a summary that includes the entire contents of the essay, too, is a cover essay, in making inferences, avoid use the same wording as part - the previous section.

RESEARCH FINDING

Making Essay is the difficult thing for the student. It could be found in the following:

a. Lack of Motivation

Many students are not even able to produce a simple essay. Some students even just copy another essay (plagiarism). Lack of motivation in the student would make more sense to build lazy feeling less confident to make scientific work. Motivation is not strong in itself would be reason so lazy (do not want) to do so. Sentence student always comes to mind is to what should I do? what I want to write, do not do the job, and so lain. Difficulties to start and unfocused. Difficulties began writing is not only experienced by the students as writers but also can occur in senior writer. Difficulty in choosing and determining the topic, difficulty in collecting new ideas and lead author felt not know where to start.

b. The language barrier

Linguistic barriers often experienced by students in doing the writing is the difficulty in stringing words into sentences effective. How to resolve the problem in writing understand what the essay, how to write an essay, admits that the principles-principles of essay writing, essays and essay type characteristics. Began to pick a topic that is discussed. Start writing an essay is simple to get used to in writing, such as writing an essay to get used to.

c. Writing organization

With regard to the coherence of the text, the respondents from the basic level to try to achieve coherence by repeating the keyword / key words and by displaying the logical division of the three

texts have topic ideas are broken down into sections separate parts, and each part is discussed separately. However, the idea is lost because he did not write signal transition / transition signal in his text. As a result, the idea of the text does not flow smoothly because there is not enough guidance to readers about the movement of one idea to the next. This can cause difficulties in understanding the majority of communication intended. In short, the respondents at the level of basic still have problems with the organization. They have problems in using appropriate schema structure in the essay and also coherence.

d. Vocabulary

From the aspect of vocabulary or vocabulary, it can be concluded that the respondents that are at the basis of the level of English proficiency had a problem with a limited vocabulary as a lack of vocabulary owned because of the existing data, Approximately, more than 65% of the words are written in text respondents from the Basic level is taken from dictionaries and making frequent errors in word choice and use of words. Due to the lack of English vocabulary you have, a third of respondents have only minimal detail. Third of respondents were too focused on looking for a word in the dictionary so that the organization of the text to give a signal transition is not made a priority. On the other hand, respondents in upperintermediate level do not have problems with vocabulary.

e. Mechanics of writing

Most of the students arrange the sentence by looking for English vocabulary dictionary and applying the wrong grammar. This is the main reason why they have a problem with the mechanics of writing such as capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. The whole time there was spent looking for vocabulary and make sentences so that a third of respondents rule out a

revision on the proper mechanics of writing. While respondents in upper-intermediate level did not have a problem with the mechanics of writing because they have enough time to consider whether capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are correct in their essay.

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