

ABSTRACT

Juprianto, M.A, 2013. Improving Students' Descriptive Writing Ability Through Graphic Organizer

The objective of this research is intended to investigate the use of graphic organizer in improving the students' descriptive writing ability. In this research, the writer conducted a classroom action research from September 10th to 15th, 2012 in the seventh grade students of SMPN10 Pontianak. There were 27 students as the sample of the research. At the pre-observation, it was found that the students were having difficulties in gathering or exploring a topic to write about.

This study was a classroom action research. In this research, the writer taught descriptive writing by employing graphic organizer. Graphic organizer is a series of visual charts and tools used to represent and organize a student's knowledge or ideas. In this research, graphic organizer was used to gather information from a descriptive text and to help the students in the pre-writing process. The writer conducted three cycles and each cycle consists of a series of steps, namely: planning, acting, observing, reflecting. For the first cycle, the writer implemented graphic organizer in describing an object. For the second cycle, the writer implemented graphic organizer in describing place. In the third cycle, the writer implemented graphic organizer in describing people

The result of the research showed that the students' descriptive writing ability, especially in organizing paragraph and ideas were improved. During the acting stage, the students paid good participation to the lesson. The result of this study showed that a great improvement in the students' descriptive writing ability. From first cycle to the second cycle there was 106% improvement. While from the second cycle to the third cycle there was 42% improvement. The improvement from the first cycle up to the third cycle could be a reflection that graphic organizer was helped the students in their descriptive writing. The result shows that the students get better and better each cycle.