

MILIK PERPUSTAKAAN
STAIN ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA

**STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING TASKS BASED ON
GENDER AT THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF
SMP NEGERI 1 SERUWAY**

THESIS

Submitted by :

YUHANDANI

**The Student of English Department
Tarbiyah Faculty
Student No : 140800210**



**STATE COLLEGE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES
ZAWIYAH COT KALA LANGSA
1434 H / 2013 M**

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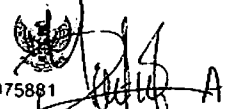
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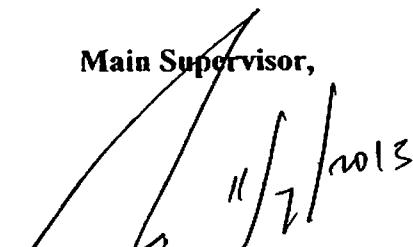
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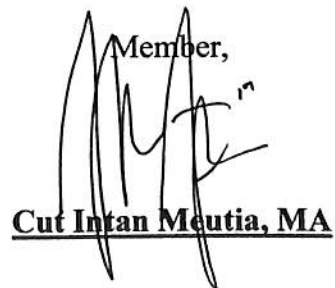
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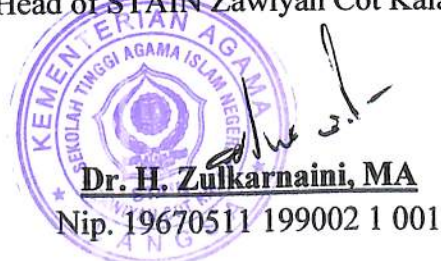
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Langsa, 17th July 2013

The Writer

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted to investigate the ability of the students of SMP Negeri 1 Seruway Aceh Tamiang in writing task based on gender. The writer used a qualitative approach. It tried to describe the phenomenon about students' ability and their real ability through test result. Therefore, she used questioner and test for her instruments. The questioner employed some questions about asking their opinion for their ability in doing writing task. Meanwhile, test was used to find out their real ability in doing writing task. The writer used Likert scale to find out the opinion of students based on gender.

As a result, the finding of this research supported the theory about gender characteristic which is male prefer to talk openly about their ability while and the female felt reluctant to express openly their ability, although the fact show different result. The test result showed that female student scored higher than male student. Where by 25% of female perform and on 15% mal student scored average which is still below the standard. It is recommendation to English teacher of SMP Negeri 1 Seruway to do more communication approach to the student about their learning performance. It can be started by asking their preference in learning and method in order, the English teacher could choose the right technique or method to improve their ability in writing.

Keyword: Ability, Writing Tasks, Gender

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

English as an international language has four integrated skills. There are many kinds of subjects in teaching learning process, one of the basic language skills is writing. Writing English becomes very important in using English for communication in written mode. Someone is considered to be competent in language if he or she is clever to scrutinize, read and write in and by using the language. Writing is one of the important skills that people need to master. By writing, people can share their information to other in different places. People know that language is habit. Language is not only taught and learnt but it is used as habit. So, people must be able to express their feeling well because other people identify their English mastery with their English well.

Generally, students lack ability in writing because they do not know how to express their feeling into written mode. The psycholinguist Eric Leenneberg in Brown noted that human being universally learn to walk and to talk, but the swimming and writing are culturally specific learned behaviours. We learn to swim if there is a body of water available and usually only if someone teaches us. We learn to write if we are members of a literate society, and usually only if someone teaches us¹. That is why an english teacher should teach and guide their student due to get the ability in writing tasks.

¹ Brown, Douglas, *Teaching by Principles: An Interactive Approach to Language Pedagogy*, (Person Education: New York), P. 334

Learning at school should pay attention to gender also. There are a lot of issues which have important roles that influence students' achievement at school. Gender is one of them. Physically, there are differences between male and female students in writing. Because it is affect to learning progress in classroom. As a subject needs to be an explicit part of curriculum in order to helps boys and girls to understand more about themselves and their peers and combat discrimination. Approaches have to be chosen which allow self determination for learners which allow them to pursue their own interest². In this research the writer focus on writing only.

A great deal of research has also examined and compared boys' and girls' writing of stories. It is maintained that girls' stories tend to consist of a single complication and resolution, and they often include a great deal of dialogue and description. Boys, on the other hand, have been found to write aggressive, bloodthirsty stories, often about authority and control and containing superheroes and bad guys suggests that boys' stories are often fantasies of power and domination³. In this research the writer focus on writing one. Students based on gender have differences in writing instead.

SMP Negeri 1 Seruway is one of Junior high school level which has problem in English subject. From one of the English teacher's information, students at the seventh grade have difficulties in learning English. They can not do their tasks well. The English teacher often gives them the tasks in written from.

² Maynard, Trisha. *Boys and Literacy Exploring the Issues*, (London: Routledge Falmer, 2002), P. 258

³ Trisha. *Boys and Literacy exploring the issues*, 39

Their tasks have been taken from their text book or LKS (students' paper sheets). The writer is interested in finding some difficulties which are faced by the students. Moreover, the writer would like to find out the differences between male and female students' ability in writing tasks. Thus, this research will investigate some difficulties in writing tasks based on gender.

Considering the explanation above, the research are needed to make the educators know about how to treat the students based on gender. English teachers have responsibility as they are demanded to have teaching method in order to solve the problem faced by the students in learning English, like; low vocabulary, difficulties in writing, being afraid in making mistakes, etc. SMP Negeri 1 Seruway is one of school of Junior high school level which has problem in writing. The writer wants to do the research about some difficulties which is faced by the students' differences of male and female students. As the result, the writer would like to conduct the thesis entitle As a result, the writer would like to conduct the thesis entitled **"The Students' Ability in Writing Tasks Based on Gender at The Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Seruway"**.

B. Research Questions

Relating to the issue about writing tasks on gender, the writer formulates research the question as follow:

1. How does male students test express their own ability in comparison to the female one?
2. Does male students perform better in writing test than the female one.

C. The Objective of the Research

The objective of the research are:

1. To investigate the male students test express their own ability in comparison to the female one
2. To find out whether male students perform better in writing test than the female one

D. Terminology

Students' Ability

Ability is the quality or state of being able, power to do something, or competence in doing something. In lexical meaning ability is power or skill⁴.

Writing Task

Writing is the activity or occupation of writing eg: books, stories, or articles⁵. Writing is one of four integrated skills that should be taught in classroom. Task is a piece of work that has to be done⁶. The way of giving feed backs on writing will depend on the kinds of writing task the students have undertaken, and the effect to make themes creative. When students do workbook exercise based on controlled testing activities, teacher will mark their efforts right or wrong, possibly penciling in the correct answer for them to study. The forms of writing tasks could be such as letters, reports, stories or poems. It depends on

⁴ *Oxford Learner's pocket Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford, 2008), P. 1

⁵ Hornby, As, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995), P. 1383

⁶ Hornby, As, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, 1223

school syllabus at the seventh grade. Written text has a number of conventions which separate it out from speaking. Apart of differences in grammar and vocabulary, there are issues of a letter, words, and text information, manifested by handwriting, spelling, and layout and punctuation⁷.

Gender

Gender is classification. Man and mankind have traditionally been used to mean all men and women. Many people consider the use of these terms discriminates against women and prefer to use humanity, the human race, human beings or people⁸. Exploration of issues like gender is fraught with difficulties for teachers. In particular this is because stereotypes and preconceptions are rife in society. The danger of preconceptions is that they can lead to low expectation of children's capabilities⁹. One example of gender characteristic is preference for reading fiction as opposed to non-fiction. In general it is argued that women and girls tend to prefer fiction whereas men and boys prefer non-fiction. However, it doesn't mean all women and girls prefer to fiction and all men and boys prefer to non-fiction. It will be better for teacher to do survey to get information about their class before teaching. Therefore, the teacher can create their lesson plan in order to guide and help students in writing task.

⁷ Harmer, Jeremy, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, (England: Longman, 2001), P. 255

⁸ Hornby, As, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, P. 490

⁹ Maynard, Trisha. *Boys and Literacy exploring the issues*, (Routledge Falmer: London 2002), P. 254

E. The Significance of the Research

The writer hopes that this study can be useful to the English teacher, the students, and the other researchers and even to the writer herself.

Theoretically

- a. For the other researchers, this research can give the information to be developed for further studies
- b. For the writer, this research gives more understanding about teaching writing based on gender.

Practically

- a. For English teacher, this research provides the information in how to treat students in writing based on gender
- b. For the students, this research finding can build their interest in doing writing tasks in classroom