

The Effect of Highlight Story in Instagram to Improve The Student's Writing Ability In Recount Text at Grade VIII in SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar

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Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui pengaruh highlight story di instagram terhadap kemampuan siswa dalam menulis teks recount di kelas VIII di SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar. Penelitian ini berfokus pada pengaruh highlight story sebagai media untuk membantu siswa menulis teks recount dengan tema untuk menuliskan pengalaman mereka. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kuantitatif dengan desain penelitian kuasi eksperimen. Populasi penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas VIII SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar yang berjumlah 294 siswa. Sampel penelitian ini dibagi menjadi dua kelas, yaitu kelas eksperimen (VIII-1) yang terdiri dari 30 siswa yang menggunakan media highlight story di instagram dan kelas kontrol (VIII-4) yang terdiri dari 30 siswa yang menggunakan media konvensional. Instrumen pengumpulan data menggunakan tes menulis untuk pre-test dan post-test. Rubrik penilaian tulisan Brown digunakan dalam penelitian ini, yang mencakup beberapa aspek: isi, organisasi, tata bahasa, kosa kata dan mekanik. SPSS versi 24 digunakan untuk menganalisis data, dengan melakukan analisis deskriptif, uji normalitas, uji Wilcoxon, uji homogenitas dan uji Mann Whitney. Hasil analisis data menggunakan uji Mann Whitney menunjukkan bahwa Assymp. Nilai sig (2-tailed) sebesar $0,000 < 0,05$. Berdasarkan temuan tersebut H_a diterima dan H_0 ditolak. Oleh karena itu, dapat disimpulkan bahwa highlight story pada media instagram secara signifikan.

Kata kunci: *Menulis, Menceritakan Kembali Teks, dan Menyorot Cerita di Instagram*

Abstract

The objective of this research was to determine the effect of highlight story in instagram to the students' ability in writing recount text at grade VIII in SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar. This research focuses on the effect of highlight story as a media to help students write recount texts with the theme to write their experiences. This research used quantitative research with a quasi-experimental research design. The population of this study was the VIII grade students of SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar with a total of 294 students. The sample of this study

was divided into two classes, namely the experimental class (VIII-1) consisting of 30 students who used highlight story in Instagram as a media and the control class (VIII-4) consisting of 30 students who used conventional media. Data collection instruments used writing tests for pre-test and post-test. Brown's writing assessment rubric was used in this research, which includes several aspects: content, organization, grammar, vocabulary and mechanics. SPSS version 24 was used to analyze the data, by conducting descriptive analysis, normality test, Wilcoxon test, homogeneity test and Mann Whitney test. The results of data analysis using the Mann Whitney test showed that the Assymp. Sig (2-tailed) value of $0.000 < 0.05$. Based on these findings, H_a is accepted and H_o is rejected. Therefore, it can be concluded that the highlight story in Instagram as a media significantly.

Keywords : *Writing, Recount Text, and Highlight Story in Instagram*

INTRODUCTION

Everyone must master the language. Using language, humans can interact with other people through communication. Communication is the basic human tool. Language is an inseparable component of communication. This is a way for people to share their thoughts. They ask questions, share their thoughts, ideas and feelings in language (Febriyanto & Yanto, 2019). Language is a refined system which enables individuals to artfully convey their emotions, thoughts, and recommendations. It is an exquisite form of communication exclusive to the human race, serving as a means for interaction and understanding. As stated by Dolglas, language is a crafted and universally accepted arrangement of spoken, written, or gestural symbols, fostering intelligent exchanges amongst members of a specific community. Since we always use language to communicate with people in our daily life, language is very important to us. Because language is one of the main means of communication used by humans in general, we cannot talk to each other without it. Both orally and in writing, we can express ideas and messages using language (Fauziyah et al., 2022).

One of the languages that is needed in this era of globalization is English because it can help people communicate globally. English plays a significant role in facilitating effective communication, both spoken and written. In Indonesian educational system, English is regarded as a foreign language that is taught from early childhood through higher education (Dalle, 2019). According to Brown, teaching English has been a subject of research and practical application for over six decades. The widespread interest in acquiring and enhancing English skills can be attributed to its status as a global language. It is widely acknowledged that English is the primary foreign language that enables access to information, fosters the growth of various disciplines such as science, technology, arts, and culture, and facilitates international connections, as emphasized by Kasihani (2001: 43).

Writing holds a significant place among the four competencies of the English language, namely speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Its importance lies in its ability to enable students to effectively express their thoughts, emotions, and experiences in diverse settings and circumstances. Patel (2018) asserts that writing serves as a valuable

to help enhance vocabulary, spelling, and sentence structure, making it an integral part of language acquisition. Moreover, writing transcends beyond the academic sphere, as students are required to produce various forms of texts, such as descriptive, narrative, procedural, reports, and recount texts, in their educational journey. Sullisworo et al. (2019) highlight the pivotal role of writing skills in determining students' academic success and future prospects (Imran, 2022). Thus, it becomes imperative for students to diligently learn and master the intricacies of writing. As Hultauluk et al. (2020) aptly state, writing is not merely a means to convey ideas or thoughts through words and text; it also entails the meticulous arrangement of words, letters, sentences, and paragraphs, ensuring their harmonious coexistence. Consequently, writing is widely recognized as the most formidable skill to acquire in the English language (Khasawneh & Al-Rub, 2020).

In this research, the researcher has chosen to focus on the development of writing skills. Writing is a fundamental skill that every student must master, as it holds great significance in various aspects of life. When students engage in writing, they actively produce language rather than passively receive it. It is important to note that writing is the most intricate of the four macro skills, demanding a high level of proficiency in expressing ideas, thoughts, and emotions, as well as producing well-crafted written texts. Unfortunately, writing often receives less attention from students, making it the most challenging skill for foreign language learners. According to Richards and Renandya (2002:303), not only is it difficult to generate and organize ideas, but it is also a challenge to effectively translate these ideas into written form. To excel in writing, students must possess strong writing skills. They must acquire the knowledge of composing essays, paragraphs, letters, invitations, memos, and responding to correspondences (Fidriani et al., 2021). Prior to writing, students must have a clear understanding of the elements that contribute to good and effective writing, such as purpose, clarity, conciseness, organization, structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and the ability to present their points in an eloquent and refined manner (Meinawati et al., 2021).

Learning or teaching English cannot be separated from the use of media as a means of distribution of information. The media is very much needed as a tool or means to express opinions, and ideas more clearly, so that what is conveyed is achieved properly. Media and learning are related to the learning processes. According to Sulryani, 2018:3 media are all forms and delivery messages or information from the message source to the recipient that can trigger thoughts, arouse enthusiasm, and attract students' attention and abilities so that students can acquire the appropriate knowledge, attitudes, and skills with the purpose of conveying information (Wardana et al., 2022). When it comes to the art of teaching writing, an essential tool for success is the utilization of learning media. These media serve as a means to effectively convey messages and information during the teaching and learning process, capturing the attention and interest of students. By incorporating these mediums, educators can inspire and motivate students to actively engage in their own learning, fostering a mindset of curiosity and creativity (Fitriani & Zaiturrahmi, 2022). The incorporation of media not only enhances the quality of lessons, but also offers a diverse range of teaching techniques to prevent monotony and disinterest. The advantages of implementing media in the

classroom are manifold, as it enhances students' enthusiasm for learning, facilitates a deeper understanding of the subject matter, and ultimately improves their overall academic performance. With a varied repertoire of teaching methods at their disposal, students are less likely to become disengaged or bored during their educational pursuits (Ismayanti & Kholiq, 2020).

In the realm of writing, there exist various forms, including description, recount, narration, exposition, and argumentation. As per the K-13 curriculum syllabus for Junior High School (SMP), it is imperative for class VIII students to attain proficiency in writing. According to the English Language Standards and Basic Competency for Grade VIII Students, it is expected that Junior High School students possess the ability to produce accurate and fluent recounts while maintaining a well-structured composition. Unfortunately, the reality is that the class VIII students at SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar have yet to achieve this level of competence (Fitri et al., 2022). Furthermore, the pre-test conducted by the researcher yielded unsatisfactory results, highlighting several issues in content, organization, vocabulary, language usage, and mechanics. Defined as "a story genre that serves to inform or entertain by retelling past events," the recount text holds great importance (Lisnora Saragih & Sirait, 2022). Anderson & Anderson (2003) describe it as a text that recounts past experiences, aiming to inform the reader by presenting a series of events (KD Matondang, 2020). Colgan (Sari et al., 2013) further emphasizes that recount texts are written with the intention of enlightening or entertaining the audience. Hence, it is crucial for students to effectively express events or experiences through written texts in order to inform or entertain their readers. However, as English is a foreign language in Indonesia, mastering the art of writing in this language poses a significant challenge. According to Harmer, many EFL students find writing in English to be a daunting task (Harmer, 2004). Students must exercise creativity in developing texts while ensuring the accuracy of grammar usage. Given the complexity of the writing process, crafting a recount text becomes a predicament for students (Rahandi et al., 2020).

Based on the experience of researcher when doing teaching practice at SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar there are some problems in writing, especially in writing recount text there are: Students had no idea to begin writing. Some of the students said they are not interested in writing, because they face problems in completing writing assignments, especially in writing recount texts (Gesing et al., 2021). They don't know how to express language through written form. Student's difficulty to arrange sentences into a paragraph. Student have limited range of vocabulary. Students are difficult in understanding generic structure of recount text. Teacher still uses passive learning methods which are less interesting so that many students are not active in class during English lessons and some students feel bored when writing English texts. In previous research, BS Hultauluk, et.,al (2022), stated that the recount text problem found in their research was that students had difficulty determining the tenses used in recount text. Given that recount text serves as a mean to eloquently recount past events, it is imperative that the written content employs various past tenses, such as past continuous, past perfect continuous, and past perfect. Consequently, many students find themselves struggling with the task of selecting the appropriate tenses when crafting a recount text.

In one of the classes in class VIII SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar, found that the percentage of students whose scores are below the KKM (71) is higher, namely 53%. The difficulties and weaknesses of students in writing cannot be ignored by the teacher as a teacher and guide at school. In addition, a teacher must have creativity in the teaching and learning process to find ways to teach or convey knowledge or material to students related to their needs. Teachers must be innovative in determining approaches, methods, techniques, strategies or even media. Therefore, according to researcher, it is necessary to find answers using media that are in accordance with the background of research (Merlin & Toneva, 2022).

As stated by Oktaviani, et al., (2018: 83), the utilization of media can prove advantageous for both educators and learners. Media offers a seamless platform for teachers to articulate complex concepts to their students, while simultaneously aiding students in comprehending and internalizing the lessons imparted by their mentors. Moreover, the integration of captivating multimedia tools enhances student engagement, making it imperative for educators to explore innovative solutions that align with contemporary research, such as crafting compelling narratives through Instagram's highlight story feature (Bin-Tahir et al., 2017).

Instagram is currently one of the most well-known SNSs (Social Network Sites) in the world right now with more than 300 million active users (Kelly, 2015). There are several parts of Instagram, one of which is the highlight story. Highlight story is an additional feature on a user's profile. Instagram users can create summary stories. With the aim of showing several stories into one snippet. Highlights of stories can certainly last more than 24 hours (Widya et al., 2020). In addition, users can also keep the story there until they have the desire to delete it. The purpose of the highlight story on Instagram is to help students improve their writing skills, especially in writing recollect text. Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting research entitled "The Effect of Highlight Stories on Instagram on Increasing the Ability to Write Recollect Texts for Class VIII Students of SMPN 4 Pematangsiantar".

METHOD

In the realm of research, a well-constructed research design plays a crucial role. Research design entails the skillful integration of various research components in a manner that is harmonious and seamless. Divergent viewpoints exist among experts regarding the essence of research design. According to Creswell (2009:3) research design encompasses the comprehensive planning and meticulous execution of methods for data collection and analysis. The two most widely recognized approaches in research are qualitative and quantitative. Sheman and Webb (1988) contend that qualitative research delves into the intricate meanings that individuals experience and achieve within their social contexts. In contrast, Bogdan and Biklen (1982) assert that qualitative research adopts a descriptive approach, employing words or visuals rather than numerical data. The study's findings are effectively presented through the incorporation of data in the form of quotations from documents, field notes, interviews, or excerpts from various forms, such as videotapes, audiotapes, or electronic communications (Gunawan, 2019).

In this research, the researcher was employed a quantitative research method and a quasi-experimental design. The use of quantitative research is justified by the need to examine objective theories and test the relationship between variables using numerical and quantitative data. Specifically, a quasi-experimental study was conducted, utilizing pre-test and post-test measures. The purpose of this research is to investigate the effectiveness of utilizing highlight stories to improve the writing ability of second-grade students in recount text at a junior high school. After consulting with the English teacher, two classes were selected: VIII-1 and VIII-4. These classes will serve as experimental and control groups, respectively. The experimental group was given instruction using highlight stories on Instagram, while the control group was taught using conventional techniques. The research was span five meetings, with the first meeting dedicated to administering the pre-test, three subsequent meetings for implementing the highlight story treatment, and a final meeting for administering the post-test. (Iheduru-Anderson, 2020).

This research was conducted in class VIII SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar, located on Jl. Kartini No.4, Proklamasi, Kec. Siantar Bar., City of Pematang Siantar, North Sumatra. This research planned to be held in July to August in academic year 2020/2023.

As stated by Fraenkel et al. (2012), the population represents a significant group whose outcomes are sought to be applied. In simple terms, it refers to the group of individuals that researchers are keen on generalizing the study's findings to. In this particular investigation, the population under examination comprises all the students enrolled in class VIII at SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar for the academic year 2022/2023, encompassing total of ten classes. Precisely, the number of students in class VIII amounts to approximately 294 individuals.

The sample serves as a reflection of the larger population, encapsulating its essence and characteristics. As Creswell (2012: 142) asserts, it provides the researcher with a mean to draw generalizations about the target population. In this particular study, the researcher was employed cluster random sampling, a method endorsed by Fraenkel and Wallen (2009:95), whereby classes or clusters, rather than individual subjects, are selected at random. Consequently, the sample was derived from the population and allocated into two classes: VIII-1 and VIII-4 at SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar. In this research, the researcher elected to utilize these two classes as samples, with VIII-1 serving as the experimental group, comprising 30 students, and VIII-4 as the control group, also composed of 30 students (Ross et al., 2020).

Within this research, there exist two variables: the independent variable (X) and the dependent variable (Y). The independent variable is deemed to possess the capacity to exert influence upon another variable, whereas the dependent variable represents a category that is either influenced by another category or serves as its consequence. Specifically, the dependent variable in this examination pertains to the creation of written recount texts (X), while the independent variable revolves around production of written recount texts accompanied by narratives showcased on highlight story in Instagram (Y).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

This research was a quantitative research that requires data analysis after collecting student data, namely pre and post-test from each sample, namely the experimental class and control class. The findings from the students' writing test on descriptive text, which were calculated using the writing assessment criteria, were collected by the researcher using a quasi-experimental research design. In this chapter, the researcher presents the findings from the assessment of students' writing test on descriptive text of the experimental class and control class for the pre-test and post-test.

Data

In this research, the researcher showed the relevant text writing test results from 2 samples the experimental class (VIII-1) and the control class (VIII-4), which each included 30 students. This made a total of 60 students take the test. Students answered pre-test questions with the theme the happiest day in my life and post-test with the theme the most beautiful vacation. Each test was calculated using the theory of assessment of writing by Brown (2001: 256), which had a content aspect with a score range of 1-4 and an assessment weight multiplied by 3, organization with a score range of 1-4 and a weight multiplied by 2, grammar with a score range of 1-4 and the weight multiplied by 3, vocabulary with the score range 1-4 and the weight multiplied by 1.5 and mechanics with the value range 1-4 and the weight multiplied by 1.5. The number of student scores for each test was divided by 40 and 100, so that, it had a minimum value of 0 and a maximum of 100.

Then the researcher presents a table data analysis from the pre-test and post-test experimental and control class, include :

1. Scoring pre-test and post-test of the experimental class
2. Scoring pre-test and post test of the control class
3. Descriptive analysis
4. Normality test
5. Paired sample t-test or Wilcoxon test
6. Homogeneity test
7. Mann Whitney test

Scoring Pre-Test of the Experimental Class

The pre-test was done in the experimental class (VIII-1) consisting of 30 students. The researcher displayed 5 pre-test data as an example of scoring a test of writing a relevant text in the experimental class but all student scores (30) were shown in table.

Pre-Test

Name : Raka Ar' Rest P.

Class : VIII - 1

Theme : Happiest day in my life

C = 3.3 = 9

U = 2.2 = 4

G = 3.2 = 6

M = 3 - 1.5 = 1.5

 = 2 - 1.5 = 0.5

26.5

66

Write a short recount text (at least 6 sentences) by your own words based on the theme above!

Orientation

The happiest day in my life was when I got a new handphone and when I went to Malaysia 4 years ago. I bought some thing and so. Malaysia is a very nice - country. The food is also delicious and clean. There is also a lot of tourism in Malaysia and Pleasant.

Re-orientation

That's the happiest day story in my life.

Figure 1. Student's Worksheet

RAR got 3 for the content because the topic or idea was relevant to the theme and instruction but less detailed in giving information. The score for the organization was 2 because generic structure only two orientation and re-orientation, there is no events in the text. The score for the grammar was 3 because there were few errors of grammar such as: *happies*. The score of vocabulary was 3 because there were some mistakes in word choice such as *and pleusent*. The score for the mechanics is 2 because there was error for the spelling like *colntry, coluntry*. The total score of the student's pre-test was $26,5/40 \times 100 = 66$.

Descriptive Analysis

Research data's quantity, maximum, minimum, average, and other properties can all be explained and described using statistical analysis.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Pre-test Experiment	30	41	84	61.07	12.211
Post-test Experiment	30	71	95	80.47	6.564
Pre-test Control	30	37	65	49.80	7.155
Post-test Control	30	64	81	72.63	5.236
Valid N (listwise)	30				

The table above showed what may be seen:

- a. There were 30 students in each class, denoted by the letter N.
- b. The experimental class pre-test had a minimum value of 41 and a maximum value of 84. The standard deviation was 12.211, while the mean was 61.07. The experimental class post-test had a minimum value of 71, a maximum value of 95, an average of 80.47, and a standard deviation of 6.564.
- c. The control class pre-test scores ranged from 37 to 65, with an average of 49.80 and a standard deviation of 7.155. While the lowest post-test value of the control class was 64 and the highest value was 81, with an average value of 72.63 and a standard deviation of 5.236.

Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis testing to be carried out:

1. H_0 : There is no significant effect of using highlight story in Instagram to improve the students' writing ability in recount text at grade VIII in SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar
 2. H_a : There is a significant effect of using highlight story in Instagram to improve the students' writing ability in recount text at grade VIII in SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar
- If the value of Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) in paired sample t-test or Mann-Whitney < 0.05 then H_a is accepted for the test condition. From the table above, it can be shown that H_a and H_0 are accepted if the Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) = $0.000 < 0.05$.

Findings

After carrying out the data analysis process, numerical findings had been received that might answer research problems.

1. The researcher finds findings to answer research problems, "What is the effect of using highlight story in Instagram to improve student's writing ability in recount text at grade VIII in SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar?". In the data analysis it is found that there are several effects that occurred in the samples that use and did not use highlight story in Instagram on the students' ability in writing recount text. In the experimental class, the average score of the pre-test is 61,07 and the post-test is 80,47 and not all students experienced a decrease in grades (negative rank) or statistic score (ties). In the control class that did not use highlight story in Instagram, the average score of the pre-test was 49,80 and post-test is 72,63 and not all students experience a decrease in grades or statistic score. Both experience classes an increase in value with a mean of rank 15.50, with a sum of rank 465.00 and Asymp. Sig (2 tailed) in the Wilcoxon test is 0.000, but it is clear that the post-test mean score in the experimental class is higher than that in the control class. The mean rank on learning outcomes (post-test) in the experimental class is 40,17 with a sum of rank of 1205,00, while in the control class the mean rank on learning outcomes (post-test) is 20,83 with a sum of rank of 625,00.
2. According to the aforementioned data, it can be concluded that using highlight story in Instagram as a media and not using one has an impact on students' abilities to write recount texts, however the experimental class (the class that keeps highlight story in Instagram) has a more significant impact than the class that did not use highlight story

in instagram oln students writing ability in recolulnt text at grade VIII in SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar.

Discussions

The end result of this research based on the research problem, the researcher find the solution to the research problem, Researchers found answers to research problems, namely to find out whether highlight story in instagram has a significant effect on students' ability to write recount text (and see the effect of using and without using highlight story on students' ability to write recount text at SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar. Writing turns into important skill which is needed to be mastered by means of each student because it may be used as a tool to communicate besides speaking. From the reason above, it is able to be concluded that do conversation with other humans not only accomplished speaking, however additionally through writing. Based on studies experience that been performed in teaching practise at SMPN 4 Pematang Siantar, many students have issue in composing recount text. A few of the writing-related problems they were given included picking the right words or phrases to use in sentences, as well as sentence composition, sentence structure and spelling. According to Hyland (2002:234) "one of the most important skills is writing which must be developed and requires writing ability as well as knowledge of texts, situations, and readers." This is also supported by Pulrba and Hultaulrulk (2022: 45). Therefore, teachers must be innovative in determining approaches, methods, techniques, strategies, or even media (Gao et al., 2020).

According to Oktaviani, et al., (2018: 83) "the use of media can be beneficial for both teachers and students." According to Kelly (2015) Instagram is currently one of the most well-known SNSs (Social Network Sites) in the world right now with more than 300 million active users". There are several parts of Instagram, one of which is the highlight story. Highlight story on Instagram can help students improve their writing skills, especially in writing recount text. "Through highlight story students can reflect and elaborate on real-life experiences, developing their skills as sensitive writers who can draw inspiration from events in their own lives. It makes a difference under studies to fathom their issues in getting and creating thoughts particularly in composing relate content (Hakim et al., 2022).

Using the quantitative method, quasi-experimental research design and data analysis in this study, hypothesis testing made it possible to draw the conclusion that students taught recount text through highlight story outperformed students taught using conventional media. The mean rank on learning outcomes in the experimental class using highlight story (40.17) with a total rank of 1205.00 was higher than those taught using conventional media (28.83) with a total rank of 625.00. The final statistical test data on Mann Whitney became a benchmark for a significant effect on the writing treatment using highlight story on students' ability to write recount text For the testing criteria, H_a is accepted if the output of Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) on the Mann Whitney test < 0.05 and H_a is rejected if the output of Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) output on the Mann Whitney test < 0.05 . From the test statistics on the Mann Whitney test, the results of the Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) is $0.019 < 0.05$, then H_a is accepted and H_0 is rejected.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this research indicate that the use of highlight story in Instagram is effective in improving students' ability to write recount texts. This is evidenced by the students' scores in the experimental class higher than the control class scores and in the Mann-Whitney test, the Assympt. Sig (2-tailed) is 0.000 < 0.05, then H_0 is accepted and H_1 is rejected. Based on the results of the study and supported by several previous studies, it can be concluded that the use of highlight story in Instagram is very effective in improving students' ability in writing recount text at Grade VIII in SMP Negeri 4 Pematang Siantar.

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