



**IMPROVING STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT
BY USING CLUSTERING TECHNIQUE
(A Classroom Action Research at the Seventh Grade Students
of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014)**

**By
RIA PRIHANTINI
NIM. 2010-32-227**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
MURIA KUDUS UNIVERSITY
2014**



**IMPROVING STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT
BY USING CLUSTERING TECHNIQUE
(A Classroom Action Research at the Seventh Grade Students
of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014)**



**SKRIPSI
Presented to the University of Muria Kudus
In a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Completing the Sarjana Program
in the Department of English Education**

**By
RIA PRIHANTINI
NIM 201032227**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
MURIA KUDUS UNIVERSITY
2014**

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO:

- ✓ “Action may not always bring happiness: but there is no happiness without action” (Benjamin Disraeli)
- ✓ “Go confidently in the direction of your dream. Live the life you have imagined ” (Henry David Thoreau)

DEDICATION:

This Skripsi dedicated to:


- ❖ Her beloved parents, Mr. Wawan Suwarjan and Mrs. Murtini who always pray for her success.
- ❖ Her beloved young brother, Fajar Jaya Mukti (Demek) who gives motivation every time.
- ❖ Her beloved grand parents, Mr. Supadi and Mrs. Rami who give support every time.
- ❖ Her lovely boyfriend who always gives support and huge love.
- ❖ Her lovely friends Titis, Khusnul, Yuli and Icha who always help every time.
- ❖ Her best friend Ryan Mitha Pangesty who always gives inspiration.

ADVISORS' APPROVAL

This is to certify that the *Skripsi* of Ria Prihantini (NIM 2010-32-227) has been approved by the *Skripsi* advisors for the further approval by the Examining Committee.


Kudus, June 2014

Advisor I



Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M.Pd
NIP. 19621219 198703 1 015

Advisor II


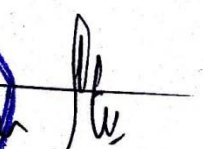


Rusiana, S.Pd M.Pd
NIS. 0610701000001226

Acknowledged by,

The Dean of Teacher Training and Education Faculty,

Dean,




Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M.Pd
NIP. 19621219 198703-1-001

EXAMINERS' APPROVAL


This is to certify that the Skripsi of Ria Prihantini (NIM: 2010-32-227) has been approved by the Examining Committee as a requirement for the Sarjana Degree of English Education

Kudus, 25th June 2014


Skripsi Examining Committee:


Drs. Muh. Syafei, M.Pd
NIP. 19620413 198803 1 002

,Chairperson


Rusiana, S. Pd. M.Pd
NIS. 0610701000001226

,Member


Mutohar, S.Pd. M.Pd
NIS. 0610701000001204

,Member


Dra. Sri Endang Kusmarvati, M.Pd
NIS. 0610713020001009

,Member

Acknowledged by,

The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education,




Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M.Pd
NIP. 19621219 198703 1 015

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, the writer would like to thank to Allah SWT who gives the writer guidance and strength, so she could finish her final project entitled “IMPROVING STUDENTS’ ABILITY IN WRITING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT BY USING CLUSTERING TECHNIQUE (A Classroom Action Research at the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014)”. Peace and blessing be upon our prophet Muhammad SAW, his family, his companions and his followers. The writer realizes that this skripsi would never be complete without assistance of others. The writer would like to express her sincerest appreciation and deepest gratitude to:

1. Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M.Pd as the Dean of Teacher Training and Education Faculty of Muria Kudus University and as the first advisor for the valuable guidance and advice. His willingness to motivate her contributed tremendously to her skripsi..
2. Diah Kurniati, S. Pd, M.Pd as the Head of English Education Department of Teacher Training and Education Faculty of Muria Kudus University.
3. Rusiana, S.Pd, M. Pd as the second advisor who already gives her valuable input and suggestion in writing this skripsi.
4. The head master of SMP N 1 Margoyoso, Herry Susanto, S.Pd, MM who has given a chance to the writer to conduct the research in this school.
5. The English teacher of SMP N 1 Margoyoso, Hesti Sulistyorini, S.Pd who

has shared her knowledge, her ideas, and numerous tips all of which culminated in the completion of this skripsi.

6. Her beloved family and friends for spirit, love, pray, and support.

Finally, thanks are also due to those whose names could not be mentioned here, their contribution have enabled her completing this final project. The writer hopes that skripsi will be useful especially for those who are in the field of education.

Kudus, May 2014

The writer



ABSTRACT

Prihantini, Ria. 2014. *Improving Students' Ability in Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique (A Classroom Action Research at the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014)*
Skripsi: English Education Department, Teacher Training and Education
Faculty of Muria Kudus University. Advisors: (i) Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M. Pd. (ii) Rusiana, S.Pd, M. Pd.

Key word: Writing Ability, Descriptive Text and Clustering Technique.

Writing is one of the four language skills which is very important to be learnt. One of the basic competencies that should be achieved in the writing English subject in the VII grade is that the students have ability to produce written simple functional text in descriptive text. Descriptive text is one of the functional texts which is difficult enough to be learnt by the students. Unfortunately, the VII A grade students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in academic year 2013/2014 were still confused how to start writing a paragraph. It shown from the students' average score in the pre-cycle was 65.94 and only 11 students passed the KKM (74). Here, the writer uses clustering technique to improve their writing ability.

The objectives of this research are: (1) to find out if clustering technique can improve the writing ability of descriptive text of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014. (2) to describe the students' response on Clustering Technique which is aimed at improving their writing ability.

This research is a Collaborative Classroom Action Research. In one cycle of Classroom Action Research consists of 4 steps: planning, action, observing and reflecting. The subject of this research is the students of VII A of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in academic year 2013/2014 that consists of 14 males and 18 females. To collect data the writer uses 3 kinds of instruments; observation sheet, test and questionnaire.

After doing 2 cycles, the writer found improvement of students' writing ability and students' response from each cycle. In the cycle 1, the students' average score of was 74.22. In the cycle II, the students' average score was 79.38. In the cycle I, there were 22 students passed the KKM and in the cycle II, all of the students passed the KKM. Furthermore, from the observation sheet and questionnaire there was improvement the students' response in each cycle. In the cycle 1, the students' response was good enough, some of them were still confused. In cycle II, the students' response was better than cycle 1, the looked enthusiastic in teaching and learning process.

So, from this research, the writer can conclude that clustering technique can improve the writing ability of descriptive text of the seventh grade students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in academic year 2013/2014.

ABSTRAK

Prihantini, Ria. 2014. *Meningkatkan Kemampuan Siswa dalam Menulis Teks Deskriptif dengan Menggunakan Teknik Clustering (Penelitian Tindakan Kelas pada Siswa Kelas VII di SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati Tahun Pelajaran 2013/2014)* Skripsi: Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan, Universitas Muria Kudus. Pembimbing: (i) Dr. Drs. Slamet Utomo, M. Pd. (ii) Rusiana, S.Pd, M. Pd.

Kata Kunci: Kemampuan Menulis, Teks Deskriptif, dan Teknik Clustering.

Menulis adalah salah satu dari ke empat kemampuan dasar yang sangat penting untuk dipelajari. Salah satu kompetensi dasar yang harus dicapai dalam pelajaran Bahasa Inggris kelas VII yaitu siswa mampu membuat teks deskriptif. Teks deskriptif merupakan salah satu teks yang cukup sulit untuk dipelajari. Namun, siswa kelas VII A SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati tahun pelajaran 2013/2014 masih bingung untuk memulai menulis sebuah paragraf. Hal ini di tunjukkan dari nilai rata-rata siswa di *pre-cycle* yaitu 65,94 dan hanya ada 11 siswa yang melampaui KKM (74). Disini, penulis menggunakan teknik clustering untuk meningkatkan kemampuan menulis siswa.

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah: (1) mengetahui jika teknik clustering dapat meningkatkan kemampuan menulis teks deskriptif siswa kelas VII SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati tahun pelajaran 2013/2014. (2) mendiskripsikan respon siswa terhadap teknik clustering yang bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kemampuan menulisnya.

Penelitian ini merupakan Kolaborasi Penelitian Tindakan Kelas. Dalam Penelitian Tindakan Kelas, satu siklus terdiri dari 4 tahap yaitu: rencana, tindakan, observasi dan refleksi. Subyek dari penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas VII A SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati tahun pelajaran 2013/2014 yang terdiri 14 siswa laki-laki dan 18 siswa perempuan. Untuk mengumpulkan data, penulis menggunakan 3 jenis instrumen; lembar observasi, tes dan angket.

Setelah melakukan 2 siklus, penulis menemukan peningkatan kemampuan siswa dalam menulis dan responya dari tiap siklus. Di siklus 1, nilai rata-rata siswa adalah 74,22. Di siklus 2, nilai rata-rata siswa adalah 79,38. Di siklus 1, ada 22 siswa yang melampaui KKM dan di siklus 2 semua siswa sudah melampaui KKM. Selain itu, dari lembar observasi dan angket menunjukkan adanya peningkatan respon siswa dari tiap siklus. Di siklus 1, respon siswa sudah cukup baik, namun beberapa dari mereka masih bingung. Di siklus 2, respon siswa lebih baik dari siklus 1, mereka lebih antusias dalam proses belajar mengajar.

Jadi, dari penelitian ini, penulis dapat menyimpulkan bahwa teknik clustering dapat meningkatkan kemampuan menulis teks deskriptif siswa kelas VII SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati tahun pelajaran 2013/2014.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Name	Page
COVER	i
PAGE OF LOGO	ii
PAGE OF TITLE.....	iii
MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....	iv
ADVISORS' APPROVAL.....	v
EXAMINERS' APPROVAL.....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	vii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
ABSTRAKSI.....	x
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	xi
LIST OF TABLES.....	xv
LIST OF FIGURE.....	xvii
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	xviii
 CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of the Research.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	3
1.3 Objective of the Research.....	3
1.4 Significance of the Research.....	4
1.5 Scope of the Research.....	4
1.6 Operational Definition.....	5
 CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
2.1 Teaching English in SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati.....	6
2.1.1Curriculum of Teaching English in SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati.....	7
2.1.2 Technique of Teaching English in SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati.....	7

2.1.3 Material of Teaching English in the Seventh Grade Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati.....	8
2.2 Writing Ability.....	8
2.2.1 Kinds of Writing.....	9
2.2.2 Process of Writing.....	10
2.3 Descriptive Text.....	12
2.3.1 Characteristics of Descriptive Text.....	12
2.3.2 Examples of Descriptive Text.....	13
2.4 Clustering Technique.....	14
2.4.1 Example of Clustering Technique.....	14
2.4.2 Steps of Clustering Technique.....	15
2.4.3 The Implementation of Clustering Technique in Writing Descriptive Text.....	15
2.4.4 The Advantage and Disadvantage of Clustering Technique.....	16
2.5 Review of Previous Research.....	17
2.6 Theoretical Framework.....	18
2.7 Action Hypothesis.....	19
CHAPTER III METHOD OF THE RESEARCH	
3.1 Setting and Characteristics of the Research Subjects.....	20
3.2 Variable of the Research.....	22
3.3 Design of the Research.....	22

3.3.1 Planning.....	23
3.3.2 Action.....	24
3.3.3 Observation.....	25
3.3.4 Reflection.....	26
3.4 Procedure of the Research.....	26
3.5 Data Analysis.....	32
CHAPTER IV FINDINGS	
4.1 Fact Finding Analysis of Pre-cycle.....	35
4.1.2 The Students' Score in the Pre-cycle.....	37
4.2 The Implementation of Cycle I.....	39
4.2.1 Planning.....	39
4.2.2 Action.....	40
4.2.2.1 First Meeting.....	40
4.2.2.2 Second Meeting.....	41
4.2.3 Observation.....	42
4.2.4 Reflection and Analyzing the Data.....	46
4.3 The Implementation of Cycle II.....	49
4.3.1 Planning.....	49
4.3.2 Action.....	50
4.3.2.1 First Meeting.....	50
4.3.2.2 Second Meeting.....	51

4.3.3 Observation.....	52
4.3.4 Reflection and Analyzing the Data.....	56
4.4 Fact Finding Analysis after Classroom Action Research.....	59
4.4.1 The Students' Score after Implementing Clustering Technique.....	60
CHAPTER V DISCUSSION	
5.1 The Improvement of Students' Score in Writing Ability of Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	64
5.2 The Students' Response on Writing Ability of Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	67
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	
6.1 Conclusion.....	70
6.2 Suggestion.....	71
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	73
APPENDICES.....	75
CURRICULUM VITAE.....	125

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
3.1 The Time Schedule of the Research.....	21
3.2 The Observation Sheet of Teachers and Students' Activities during Teaching and Learning Process.....	27
3.3 The Rubric for Writing Score.....	33
3.4 The Criteria of Writing Score.....	34
4.1 Pre-Cycle Test Score of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	37
4.1.2 Pre-Cycle Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	38
4.2 Observation Sheet of Teacher and Students' Activities during Teaching and Learning Process by Using Clustering Technique to Improve the Writing Ability of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014 in Cycle I.....	43
4.3 Cycle I Test Score of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	47
4.3.1 Cycle I Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	48
4.4 Observation Sheet of Teacher and Students' Activities during Teaching and Learning Process by Using Clustering Technique to Improve the Writing Ability of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014 in Cycle II.....	53
4.5 Cycle II Test Score of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	56

4.5.1 Cycle II Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	57
4.6 Pre-cycle, Cycle I and Cycle II Test Score of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	61
4.7 Comparison of the Students' Achievement Category Percentage of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	62
5.1 The Recapitulation Data of Students' Score in the Pre-cycle, Cycle I and Cycle II.....	66



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
3.1 Carr and Kemmis's Action Research Model (1986).....	23
4.1 Pre-Cycle Diagram Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	39
4.2 Cycle I Diagram Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	48
4.3 Cycle II Diagram Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	58
4.4 Comparison Diagram Percentage of Achievement Category of Writing Descriptive Text by Using Clustering Technique of VII-A Students of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in Academic Year 2013/2014.....	62

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix	Page
1.The Syllabus of SMP N 1 Margoyoso Pati in academic year 2013/2014.....	76
2.List of the Seventh Grade Students of VII-A SMP N 1 MargoyosoPati.....	91
3.Lesson Plan.....	92
4.The Students Worksheet in the Pre-Cycle.....	122
5.The Students Worksheet in the Cycle I.....	123
6.The Students Worksheet in the Cycle II.....	124

