EXPLORING STUDENTS’ WRITING OF NEWS REPORT AT ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM OF KHAIRUN UNIVERSITY

Roslianti Laode1, Anwar Ismail2, Muamar Abd. Halil3

1, 2 English Language Education Study Program, FKIP, Universitas Khairun
3 Program studi Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra Indonesia, FKIP Universitas Khairun
Email: laoderroslianti@gmail.com; anyhyz@gmail.com; abd.halilmuamar@gmail.com

Abstract

The aim of this research is to know students’ competence in writing news report at the sixth semester of English Education Study Program at Khairun University. The researcher focuses on students’ writing news report text concerning generic structure of the news that included headline, newsworthy of event, background of event and source. The researcher applied qualitative research method, this research involved 15 respondents of sixth Semester of English Language Education Study Program at Khairun University. The researcher used written test the data obtained were analyzed by using content analysis. The result of the data analysis shows that students’ writing in headline of the news 60% (nine students) acquired low competence, 26.6% (four students) acquired middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquired high competence. Students’ writing in newsworthy of event 53.3% (eight students) acquired low competence, 40% (six students) acquired middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquired high competence. Students’ writing in background of event 53.3% (eight students) acquired low competence, 33.3% (five students) acquired middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquired high competence. Students’ writing in source there are 6.66% (one student) acquired low competence, 86.6% (13 students) acquired middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquired high competence. This suggests that, 1) More than 80% students have middle competence in writing headline, newsworthy of event and background of event; 2) however, 26-53% students have middle competence in writing newsworthy of event, background of event and headline; 4) moreover, 6-13% students have high competence in writing headline, background of event and source.

Keywords: writing, generic structure of the news
INTRODUCTION

There are four skills that must be mastered by English student, writing is one important of the four skills. In writing skill, it must be through a lot of process of discovering and organizing our ideas, putting them on the paper and reshaping also revising them. Writing skills seen as language skills which most difficult and complex. Thus, writing is represents about what we think and reflects things which stay in mind.

Writing process is a complicated process, because needs cognitive abilities in recognizing some segments of languages to produce a qualified writing. Writing also involves meaningful segments of language: words, sentence, grammar, and how to transfer those segments into written forms.

In learning English writing subject, students are introduced to different text types both factual and fiction, not only text like descriptive, procedure, recount and narrative but also report text, exposition text, explanation text, news text and others. News text also is written for public information of what is the newsworthy of the day. Basically, a news text tries to answer the 5W and 1H questions; what, who, when, where, why, and how relating to the newsworthy.

It is supported by Badan Standar Nasional Pendidikan (BSNP) No.23 (2006:126) that, news is a text which informs the readers about events of the day that happened in the society. The events definitely considered as newsworthy or important. The purpose of the news is to inform the readers about events or actions that are worthy to tell.

In a news writing process, there are four elements of news that must be considered by students, such us: headline, summary of event, background of event, and source event. So, it is not only focusses on 5W and 1H. Besides, in a news writing also give some beneficial for the students. For example, developing students’ mind to think more information and increasing students’ focus in learning a text.

There is a reason why the researcher interest in doing research on this study at English Language Study Program of Khairun University. Students are taught a lot of text structure through writing subject from first until four semester, but in learning news text many students still get confused in arranging structure text. It is based on informal learning between the researcher and students. Therefore, the researcher intends to conduct a study entitled: Exploring Students’ Writing of News Report at English Education Study Program of Khairun University.

Writing

Writing is one of language skill and need to express an idea and frequently useful as preparation for some other activity, in particular when students write sentences as a preamble to discussion activities. Javed (2013:130) and Brown (2001:335) stated that writing is one of the basic skills of the English language. It is generally considered one of the most difficult skill that compared to others. Writing is the graphic representation of spoken language, and written performance is much like oral performance, the only difference lying in graphic instead of auditory signals. The students start learning to communicate through written form as they begin to interact with others at school level.

It can be concluded that writing is a progressive activity that takes time and follows some procedure in order to have a good writing. Writing also is very difficult because involving thinking process it is not only need good understanding on content and punctuation but also the clear of structure.
The Process of Writing

Writing process is done through some stages. On each stage, students engage in a certain activity to construct their writing. Furthermore, Harmer (2004:4-5), assumed that writing process is the stage a writer goes through in order to produce something in its final written form. This process may, of course, be effect by the content (subject meter) of the writing, the type of writing. In all of these cases it is suggested that the process has four main elements. Those are planning, drafting, editing, and final version.

Text

Text is the original words of something written, printed, or spoken, in contrast to a summary or paraphrase. According to Knapp (2005:29), language is always produced, exchanged or received as text, language as a system of communication is organized as cohesive units we call texts. A text is any completed act of communication such as a greeting between friends in the street, a television advertisement, a novel, or a film and so on. As far as speech and writing are concerned, a text stands alone as an act of communication.

Different types of texts have distinctive characteristics, depending on what they are made to do a piece of poetry, for instance, is immediately and characteristically different from a scientific description because each is doing a vastly different thing with language.

News report

News report is similar to a news article. It is the basic facts of a story that is currently happening or that just happened. Writing a news report is easy if you report on the subject, conduct good interviews, and write in a style that is clear, concise, and active. As assumed by Harmer (2007:116) that the following report writing sequence is detailed, and will take some time.

News is a text which informs readers about events of the day, it is supported by Kemendikbud (2016:1). The events are considered newsworthy or important. News item is a type of the text that has the main function or communicative purpose to inform readers of listeners or viewer about events of the day that are considered newsworthy or important. The generic structure of news item has four elements as follows:

1. Headline/title: the main point to report in reduced clause or sentence;
2. Summary/newsworthy of event: the summary of main event that is to be reported;
3. Background of event: the explanation about what had happened (who, what, when, where) and
4. Source: someone’s about the event.

Example of news text:

**Japan Grants $420.000 for Aceh Peace Mission**

JAKARTA: The Japanese government will donate US $ 420.000 (Rp. 3,9 billion) to the Aceh government and three nongovernmental organization for peace initiatives in the once-risive province.

The funds will be used for five projects, including the construction of a training facility for conversation management in Banda Aceh and empowerment of coffee growers in Central Aceh regency.

The Japanese Embassy said in a press release on Thursday, the grant would be used to improve live hoods of former combatants aiming, to reintegrate conflict-affected communities and to revitalize the province’s economy.
RESEARCH METHOD

This research applied qualitative method to analyze students’ competence in writing news. According to Leo, (2013:100) qualitative research is a research that is based on the collection, analyzing, and interpreting in narrative form to get deep understanding from the particular phenomenon observed. This research was conducted at Khairun University, of English language education study program in the sixth semester. It is located on Jln. Sultan Babullah, Ternate. The subjects of this research are 15 students consisting of sixth semester students of English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University. Instrument is a tool that can help the researcher to collect the data. So, instrument of this research is writing news report test. The data were taken from writing news report test. The students was given 120 minutes to write news report. There are three steps to implementation this instrument: first, students was given time to watch video that is related to news. Second, the students were required to report the news that they have watched in written form and determine the generic structure of the news. Third, the students’ writing was collected as a data of this research.

This research is descriptive qualitative, so the data was analyzed by using content analysis. Yang (2008:689) argues that content analysis is the systematization of text analysis. It is analysis form and substance of communication. Underlying meaning and ideas are revealed through analyzing patterns in elements of the text, such as word, phrases and sentence.

Based on the descriptive method in this research. There are three steps that used by researcher to analysis the data:

1. The researcher was collected data from students’ worksheet and identify students’ text that related by generic structure.

In process to identify students’ text, the researcher used composition or rubric of writing to score the students’ writing. As suggested by Jacob at al. (1981:2) in form of table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generic Structure of The News</th>
<th>Level of Competence</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Students’ text is not related with headline of the news thorough development of ideas, relevant to assigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Students’ text is almost related with headline of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Students’ text is related with headline of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Students’ text is not related with newsworthy of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Students’ text is almost related with newsworthy of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Students’ text is related with newsworthy of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsworthy of event</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Students’ text is not related with background of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Students’ text is almost related with background of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Students’ text is related with background of event of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background of event</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Students’ text is not related with source of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Students’ text is almost related with source of the news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Students’ text is related with source of the news</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Classifying the generic structure of news that established by the student.

3. The data was reveal to know students’ competence.

Beside reveal the data, to conclude the students’ competence. It was arrange in percentage form. Such us, as shows in formulation below that:

\[ \text{Percentage} = \frac{\text{total obtained students}}{\text{total maximum students}} \times 100 \]

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In headline of the news, there are 60% (nine students) acquire low competence, 26.6% (four students) acquire middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquire high competence. Second, in newsworthy of event there are 53.3% (eight students) acquire low competence, 40% (six students) acquire middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquire high competence. Third, in background of event there are 53.3% (eight students) acquire low competence, 33.3% (five students) acquire middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquire high competence. Fourth, in source there are 6.66% (one student) acquire low competence, 86.6% (13 students) acquire middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquire high competence. The data are showed in chart below:

![Chart](chart.png)

Figure 1. Students’ competence in each generic structure of the news

In addition, based on Fig 1., on students’ competence in each generic structure showed the data analysis of findings above clearly showed the mostly generic structure acquired by students were arranged as following table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Elements of Generic structure</th>
<th>Level competence</th>
<th>Total respondent</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>86.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Headline</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Newsworthy of event</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Background of event</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Newsworthy of event</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on the table above, it can be concluded that: 1) More than 80% students have middle competence in writing source; 2) as accurate, 50-60% students have low competence in writing headline, newsworthy of event and background of event; 3) however, 26-53% students have middle competence in writing newsworthy of event, background of event and headline; 4) moreover, 6-13% students have high competence in writing headline, background of event and source.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the result of data analysis and discussion above, students’ competence in writing news report at sixth semester in English language study program of Khairun University (fifteen students involved in this research) are headline of the news 60% (nine students) acquired low competence, 26.6% (four students) acquired middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquired high competence. In newsworthy of event 53.3% (eight students) acquired low competence, 40% (six students) acquired middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquired high competence. In background of event 53.3% (eight students) acquired low competence, 33.3% (five students) acquired middle competence and 13.3% (two students) acquired high competence. In source there are 6.66% (one student) acquired low competence, 86.6% (13 students) acquired middle competence and 6.66% (one student) acquired high competence. As a result, it can be concluded: 1) More than 80% students have middle competence in writing source; 2) as accurate, 50-60% students have low competence in writing headline, newsworthy of event and background of event; 3) however, 26-53% students have middle competence in writing newsworthy of event, background of event and headline; 4) moreover, 6-13% students have high competence in writing headline, background of event and source.

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