

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENTS' DIFFICULTY IN WRITING A
DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH VIEWED FROM THE WRITING
INDICATORS IN SMP NEGERI 2 SAWAN**

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ABSTRACT

This study was used descriptive qualitative research. The objectives of this study were 1) to identify and classify students' difficulties in writing descriptive paragraph viewed from the seven writing indicators in *SMP N 2 Sawan*; 2) to identify and explain sources of students' difficulties in writing descriptive paragraph viewed from the seven writing indicators in *SMP N 2 Sawan*. The subjects of this study consisted of 32 students from 7G class in the 7th grade at *SMP Negeri 2 Sawan*. The two instruments were used in this study namely students' writing task and FGI (Focus Group Interview). The students' writing task was used to identify and classify students' difficulty in writing, while focus group interview was used to identify and explain sources of students' difficulty in writing. The students were asked to make three paragraphs with different topics, namely, descriptive of person, animal and procedure. Based on the research findings, the students were faced difficulty in writing descriptive paragraphs. The most difficulty faced in writing descriptive of person and animal was mechanics. Meanwhile, the most difficulty in writing a descriptive of procedure was grammar. In addition, the source of students' difficulty were absence of knowledge, poor prior knowledge, and poor memory. The biggest source that impact on the student's difficulty was poor prior knowledge.

Keywords: difficulty analysis, writing, descriptive text, seven writing indicators, students' writing difficulty, and source of difficulty.

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menerapkan penelitian kualitatif deskriptif. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah 1) mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasikan kesulitan siswa dalam menulis teks deskriptif ditinjau dari tujuh indikator menulis di SMP N 2 Sawan; 2) mengidentifikasi dan menjelaskan alasan kesulitan siswa dalam menulis teks deskriptif ditinjau dari tujuh indikator menulis di SMP N 2 Sawan. Subjek penelitian ini berjumlah 32 siswa kelas 7 di SMP Negeri 2 Sawan. Penelitian ini menggunakan dua instrumen dalam pengumpulan data yaitu tugas menulis siswa dan wawancara kelompok terarah. Tugas menulis siswa digunakan dalam mengidentifikasi dan mengklasifikasikan kesulitan siswa dalam menulis, sedangkan wawancara kelompok terarah digunakan dalam mengidentifikasi dan menjelaskan sumber kesulitan siswa dalam menulis. Para siswa diminta untuk membuat paragraf deskriptif dengan tiga topik berbeda yaitu, deskriptif tentang orang, hewan dan prosedur. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian, siswa mengalami kesulitan dalam menulis paragraf deskriptif. Kesulitan yang paling banyak dihadapi dalam menulis deskriptif tentang orang dan hewan adalah mekanika penulisan. Sedangkan kesulitan paling banyak dalam menulis deskriptif tentang prosedur adalah tata bahasa. Selain itu, sumber kesulitan siswa adalah kurangnya pengetahuan, pengetahuan awal yang buruk, dan memori yang buruk. Sumber yang paling berdampak pada kesulitan siswa adalah pengetahuan awal yang buruk.

Kata kunci: analisis kesulitan, menulis, teks deskripsi, tujuh indikator menulis, kesulitan menulis siswa, dan sumber kesulitan.