

# **The Effect of Inquiry Method on Student's Ability in Writing Exposition Text at the Eleventh Grade Students of MAN Labuhanbatu**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is how the inquiry method influences students' writing abilities. In addition, this study is designed to explain how the inquiry method can be implemented in tenth grade students of MAN Labuhanbatu. Grade XI students of MAN Labuhanbatu have problems in understanding writing. The researcher found that eleventh grade had problems in writing, such as making exposition text, determining the generic structure in the text. Researchers find that teachers who teach in class dominate students. The search subject was eleventh grade, there were 30 students for the control class and 30 students for the experimental class. Researchers collect data by tests, researchers analyze data using quantitative data. The conclusion in this study is a significant difference from the effect on students' writing abilities between those who were taught using the inquiry method and those who were taught using Direct Instruction. This can be proven from the results of the t score (7,325) which is higher than t table (1,671). This means that students who are taught using the inquiry method have better writing skills than those who are taught using Direct Instruction. The inquiry method provides an opportunity to improve their writing skills.

**Keywords:** Writing, Exposition Text, Inquiry Method.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Writing is a language expression in the form of letters, symbols, or words. Based on Ita Miftahussaidah rivai et.al (2017: 157) said that writing is one of the ways people communicate with each other to express their thoughts and feelings. Through writing activities people can also benefit from their development. In addition, writing is an important way of communication for human life because it is one of language skills. Reasons for teaching writing to students English as a foreign language include reinforcement, language development, learning styles and, most importantly, writing as a skill in itself (Harmer: 2017: 78) Can be expressed in essays, paragraphs, letters, short stories and others.

Among the four language skills, writing skills are the most difficult to master. That is because writing skills require mastery of various linguistic elements and outside the language itself which will be the contents of the essay. Writing skills are usually associated with writing learning. Writing and writing exercises accustom students to applying linguistic knowledge, such as grammar, vocabulary, language style, spelling, and so on. A person experiences a delay in expressing his thoughts or ideas through good and correct language, as well as spreading out various ideas, so that the person has difficulty in writing. Difficulties of students to develop language so that it can be more interesting is expected to be overcome by quiet classroom conditions. Students feel unable to freely choose a theme and develop it, the creative power of students becomes inhibited.

This can be overcome by the way the teacher as the determinant of the theme explains more about matters related to the theme. The next difficulty is when it comes to choosing the right words. The reason is students don't read enough so they don't have enough vocabulary references. Writing ability is considered as the most difficult ability. At the time of writing, students are expected to use several other abilities to achieve quality writing. Students find it difficult to generate and translate ideas into exposition texts. According to (Pardiyono, 2007: 215) to write an exposition text students must know about the elements of the exposition text, such as, thesis, argument, and repetition. In addition, the teachers only use conventional methods in teaching and force students to memorize, which can make students feel bored, there is no fun in it because the activities are monotonous and attention to the teacher. Therefore, students are not interested in the subject so some students have low achievement. This phenomenon makes the students' writing ability will never develop. Student writing activities can be improved if the teacher uses methods as examples in learning and delivering messages and the contents of the lesson. Writing skills become one of the subjects in English lessons in schools that must be really taught properly. The problems above, need to be addressed immediately.

Based on Ita Miftahussaidah Rivai (2017: 157) writing is one of ways of people to communicate to each other for expressing their thinking and feeling. Writing is unnatural act like speaking. Writing needs more efforts than speaking does. According to H.Dalman (2015: 3) writing is a communication activity in the form of delivering messages in writing to other parties using written language as a tool or medium. Writing activities involve several elements, namely the writer as a messenger, the content of the writing, the channel or the media

and the reader. As Waish (2010: 9) says that writing is important because it is used extensively in higher education and in the workplace. If the students don't know how to express themselves in writing, they won't be able to communicate well with professors, employers, peers, or just about anyone else. Writing is a creative process for expressing ideas in the form of written language that aims to tell, convince or entertain. Then this creative process is called writing. Writing is a part of language skills which important to be taught and it is the most difficult skill to master for language learners. The difficulty of writing lies not only in organizing ideas but also in translating this idea into readable text Richards and Renandya (Andrian mohammad 2018: 113).

### **Inquiry Method**

Inquiry learning method is much influenced by flow cognitive (Dr.Hamruni : 2012: 87) according to this flow, learning is essentially a mental process and thought process by utilizing all the potential possessed by each individual optimally. Learning is more than the process of memorizing and accumulating knowledge, but making the knowledge gained meaningful to students through thinking skills. Hamdani (2010: 182) states that Inquiry is a way of learning or study that is looking for critical problem solving and analysis by using certain steps towards a conclusion because it is supported by data or facts. The thought process itself is usually carried out through question and answer between the teacher and students. This learning method is often called the heuristic method, which comes from Greek, namely *Heuriskein* which means i found it. This strategy departs from the assumption that from birth into the human world has the urge to find their own knowledge.

### **Exposition Text**

Exposition text is a type of text that explains or presents opinions, ideas, beliefs, which require facts and beliefs as well as evidence reinforced with numbers, statistics, maps and graphs that aim to add insight (Dr.H.Dalman 2011: 121). According Pardiyono ( 2007: 215 ) exposition text is a type of text that is very appropriate to argue about a matter or case, these opinions can be packaged in exposition type text. Meanwhile, Anderson ( cited by Dewi kurniawati and Tiza O.K: 2017: 200) also states that analytical exposition is a piece of text that presents one side of an issue. Djuharie ( cited by Dewi kurniawati and dtiza : 2017: 200) also states that analytical exposition is a text elaborates that writer's idea about the phenomenon surrounding. It can be said that while having the text, the writer's opinion is involved. Exposition is the right type of text to argue that "something is the case" (analytical exposition) and argue that "something should be or ought to be" (hortatory exposition).

### **Conceptual Framework**

The process of teaching and learning writing is not an easy thing to do. There are some aspects which make writing difficult. They are vocabulary, grammar, spelling and punctuation, and organization of the sentence. If students find difficulty in studying those aspects, surely they will find difficulties in writing. This difficulty is also found in Madrasah Aliyah Negeri Labuhanbatu. many students in the school lack of ability to express their ideas and arrange the sentences. To overcome the problem, one strategic technique is needed. In this research study, the researcher offers Inquiry Method in the teaching and learning riting to the class to solve the problem in writing . This technique is proposed for some considerations. Firstly According to Hamdani (2010: 182) inquiry is a way of learning or study that is looking for critical problem solving and analysis by using certain steps towards a conclusion because it is supported by data or facts.

That the cyclical process of Inquiry can help students to solve th problem or question from their teacher. the discussion allows students to solve th problem or question from their thought with comments from others and share personal experiences in oder to make sense of their ideas. Secondly, inquiry method is to develop the ability to think systematically, logically and critically or develop intellectual abilities as part of mental processes. As we know from the learning process, the main purpose of learning through the inquiry method is to help students develop skilled intellectual discipline and thinking skills by giving questions and finding answers on the basis of their curiosity and the students get a good score in the writing test. Incontrast with the statements above, the students of the class which the inquiry method is not applied they need more explanation of the material. They answer the question given from the teacher by individually without any discussion. In this learning process, students do their work by following the direction from the book and internet. In this case, not all students have high motivation because the activities are monotone, and makes students bored so that the improvement of their writing is rather low.

Based on the discussion above, the strategy that is good recommended for teaching and learning process of writing is inquiry method. Moreover, Inquiry method offers some benefits for teachers, students, and teaching and learning process. The researcher expect that this strategy makes the learning process of writing effective.

### **2.3 Hypothesis**

The research hypothesis is formulated as follows:

$H_0$  = There is no significant effect of inquiry method on the students's ability in writing exposition text.

$H_a$  = There is a significant effect of Inquiry method on students's ability in writing exposition text.

## Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis and discussion described, it was found that there were significant differences in the increase in post-test scores from the pre-test scores of students taught by inquiry method to students who wrote exposition texts and those not taught by inquiry methods to students who wrote exposition text. So it can be concluded that there is a positive influence on The Effect Inquiry Method On Students' Ability in Exposition Text In MAN LABUHANBATU In The Academic Year 2019/2020

## Suggestions

Based on the conclusions that have been presented, the suggestions that researchers can provide are as follows.

1. Educators can apply inquiry method to students who write exposition texts while studying in class because it has been proven that there is a positive influence on the implementation of inquiry method on students who write exposition text.
2. Other researchers who want to do similar research can be tested on different subjects.

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