

DEVELOPING PARAGRAPH WRITING MATERIAL USING SKILL AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP-BASED LEARNING MODEL

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Abstract

This study aims to know the teaching materials applied by the lecturers of paragraph writing class, the qualities of the materials, and to what extent the students need paragraph writing materials that are based on skill and entrepreneurship. This research and development approach was intended to develop paragraph writing material using skill and entrepreneurship-based Learning Model. The subject of this research was the fourth semester students of English Department, Tidar University. This research was conducted in three phases. The first was the exploration phase which consists of evaluating the existing of paragraph writing materials. The second was the prototype development phase where the prototype model was developed. The last was testing phase. The results of the research indicated that the paragraph writing material using skill and entrepreneurship-based learning model was needed. It is in accordance with Tidar University vision as entrepreneurship-based university. These findings recommended that skill and entrepreneurship-based learning model could be adopted for developing paragraph writing material.

Keywords: paragraph writing material, skill and entrepreneurship-based learning model

Introduction

Writing skill is a skill that has to be mastered by the students of English Education department since this skill is an important indicator of success of the students in learning the language. By implementation of KKNi (Indonesian Qualifications Framework), It gives opportunities for the university (high education/department) to develop their creativity in teaching-learning process including writing subject. Based on its vision, Tidar University (Universitas Tidar) is as an entrepreneurship-based university. In line with this, the purpose of Tidar University is producing quality graduates that have entrepreneurial-minded and sensitiveness to the development of science and technology. Thus, it is necessary to develop teaching material that is based on entrepreneurship. Developing paragraph writing material which integrates skills and entrepreneurship is designed in order to improve the competence of graduate students of English Education Department of Tidar University. One reason is that it is

needed in order to face the era of strong competition in getting jobs. One effort that can be done is by giving knowledge to the students in the form of an integrated entrepreneurial spirit in the course study program (teaching material).

As stated by Thomas in Yohnson (2003), the role of universities in motivating the young entrepreneurs is a part of the factors in driving the growth of entrepreneurship.

Further it is presented by the Ministry of National Education (2010), that entrepreneurship education at the basic level or school aims to form the whole person (holistic) who has the understanding and skills as an entrepreneur. Implementation of entrepreneurship education does not have to be independent or autonomous by creating a new curriculum, but entrepreneurship education can be integrated into existing curriculum, in each course.

The opinions above are supported by the results of research conducted by Sumardiningsih, et al (2012) which states that integrating character education and

entrepreneurship in the learning can be done by integrating them in the form of syllabus and lesson plans in which the values of character and values of entrepreneurship can be integrated.

Based on the above problems, it can be concluded that the college has a very important role in motivating her undergraduate become entrepreneurs. Therefore, the writer is trying to integrate skills and entrepreneurship into the writing subject. The aims of the research entitled “Developing Paragraph Writing Material using Skill and Entrepreneurship-based Learning Model” are to find the qualities of the existing of paragraph materials, and to what extent the students need paragraph writing materials that are based on skill and entrepreneurship

Teaching material based on paragraph writing skills and entrepreneurship is developed with reference to the theory and a number of relevant research results. Hopefully, it can be one of the solutions in integrating the value of entrepreneurship in paragraph writing courses as a skill subject. The goal of this is to improve the competence of graduate students of English Education Department of Tidar University.

Methodology

Following Gall and Borg (1983, p. 775), this study applied Research and Development approach which involved the lecturers and the students of paragraph writing classes of English Department of Tidar University (Untidar). Gall, Gall, and Borg (2003, p. 569) state that “Educational Research and Development (Educational R & D) is an industry-based development model in which the findings of the research are used to design new products and procedures, which then are systematically field-tested, evaluated, and refined until they meet specified criteria of effectiveness, quality, or similar standard”. The statement shows that educational research and development is a process to develop new products. Moreover, the purpose of

educational research and development is not intended to examine a theory, but it is intended to produce a new product or to develop a product, for example developing instructional technology (Borg and Gall, 1983).

The main purposes of this study were to find the qualities of the existing of paragraph materials, and to what extent the students need paragraph writing materials that are based on skill and entrepreneurship. This research and development approach was intended to develop paragraph writing material using skill and entrepreneurship-based Learning Model. This material was expected to facilitate the students of paragraph writing classes in developing the writing competence. In addition to that, it is in accordance with Tidar University vision as entrepreneurship-based university.

Since this study was in exploration stage as part of research and development study, the writer used questionnaire in collecting the research data. In analyzing the results of questionnaire as qualitative data, the writer followed Miles and Huberman’s theory (1994). This method consisted of three stages. They were data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusion.

Findings and Discussion

Concerning the objective of this study, the research findings and discussion are presented according to the research questions.

1. Profile and Quality of the Existing Paragraph Writing Material

The research was conducted in one class of fourth semester students of English Department of Tidar University from in 2016/2017 academic year. Based on questionnaire data, the lecturers used “Introduction to Academic Writing” book as the main book. Concerning the quality of the book, the writer implemented four criteria in evaluating the quality of the book. From the aims and approaches, it can be concluded that 5 students (20%) state that

the book was excellent, 25 (80%) state that it is good. Related to design and organization, 8 students (32%) state excellent, 14 students (56%) state good and 3 students (12%) state fair. The next criterion is skill. According to the students' opinion, 4 students (16%) state excellent, 20 students (80%) state good and 1 student (4%) states fair. The last criterion is vocabulary and grammar. Based on the data, 11 students (44%) state excellent and 14 students (56%) state good. The results of questionnaire could be seen in the following table and chart.

Table 1
 The Tabulation of the Quality of the Present Textbooks

Textbook Criteria	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Aims and Approaches	5	20	0	0
Design and Organization	8	14	3	0
Skill	4	20	1	0
Vocabulary and Grammar	11	14	0	0

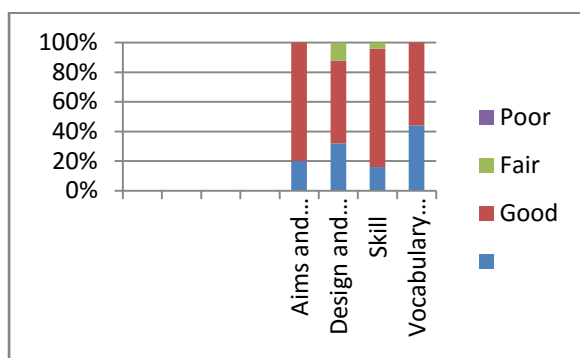


Figure 1. The Quality of the Present Textbooks

From the above findings, it can be concluding that the main textbook applied in English Department of Tidar University in paragraph writing subject is Introduction to Academic Writing". This book discusses on vocabulary, grammar (sentence structure) and skill of writing.

2. The Need of Paragraph Writing Material using Skill and Entrepreneurship-based Learning Model

Related to the needs of paragraph writing material, based on questionnaire data, it can be inferred that the students need the writing material which is used Skill and Entrepreneurship-based Learning Model. It can be seen from the students' opinion. 95% of the students state that this material is needed. They state that in writing class, they do not only learn how to write coherent paragraph, but they also need to learn how describe a product, business letter, sponsorship, and so on in order to be able to face globalization era. Besides, it is in line with Tidar University vision as entrepreneurship-based university.

Based on the finding, It is strongly suggested that the new model of paragraph writing material should be able to make the students easier to organize and develop paragraphs (texts). Besides, the model of teaching paragraph writing should facilitate the students with entrepreneurship spirit and information. Finally, the model is expected to be able to create integrative paragraph writing material.

Conclusions

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the main textbook applied in English Department of Tidar University in paragraph writing subject is "Introduction to Academic Writing". This book discusses on vocabulary, grammar (sentence structure) and skill of writing. It does not discuss on entrepreneurship. Since Tidar University is as entrepreneurship-based university, it needs to develop paragraph writing material which integrate skill and entrepreneurship.

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