Improving Students' Writing Ability By Using Answer Garden Application As A Brainstorming Media

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Abstrak: In improving the quality of education, the need for adaptation between knowledge and everyday life. One of the most used skills in all aspects is writing. Through writing activities, one can express his thoughts in the form of concrete manifestations. Similarly, with students, writing aims to train their ability to think cognitively. But the problem is that students often feel hopeless before they start because they are confused about where to start. Hence the use of the Answer Garden application can be a solution in making interactive learning in getting feedback ideas from each student. This study uses the Classroom Action research (CAR) method with 2 cycles. Each cycle was held in 1 meeting and the subjects were students of Class X-B in SMA Muhammadiyah Jember. The study used 80 as the criteria of success of the students' writing. This study showed an increase of 53.4% in students ' writing skills. By doing the preparation correctly, the implementation of this application will be successful so that the learning objectives will be achieved.

Keywords: writing; brainstorming; Answer Garden.

PENDAHULUAN

In modern times such as today, the development of the quality of education is very influential. Thus, all aspects of learning must be related to daily life so that, it is intended that students can apply the knowledge they learn during their studies. One of them is writing. This integrity is an ability that must be possessed by every student, because by educating students can improve their skills with concrete potential. Some of their future needs also have a lot to do to achieve performance such as producing articles for scholarship education, producing scientific writing, or when they want to apply for a job they must have good earning abilities in order to make a good and correct CV. Thus students not only learn every word he found, but they also have to think about the relationship between the words they arrange in a paragraph (Sangkala, 2012).

In the process, long-term health concerns arose (Harmer Jeremy, 2004). Therefore, it is not uncommon to find problems that make subsequent meetings with students in writing. Some of these changes include students having to write their writing from scratch, secondly they feel lazy because they have to write a long process, thirdly they have to make mistakes in grammar, thirdly they have to create a simple vocabulary that makes them confused and do not know what to do. According to research conducted by Wiedarti (2016). He found that students often ran out of ideas when they wrote texts. This is due to the lack of literacy that students have. Reading has a good relationship with writing, the more knowledge they have, the easier it is to put together a word or compose a story. Therefore, innovation is needed to make it easier for students to find ideas before writing texts.

In this digital era, the educational process is increasingly familiar with technological sophistication. Especially writing activities, this activity is growing rapidly in the world of technology. Like for example in writing many people start writing through blogs or in simple things like when writing captions on Instagram posts. This is what is meant by the adaptation of education in modern life. In this increase there is also one application that can help teachers in improving students ' ability to write. The application is Answer Garden, in this application students can collaborate with their classmates in finding ideas (Mark S. Ackerman, 1994). The way this application works is that first they all have to enter a room through a link that has been provided, after that they brainstorm ideas by entering words related to the theme, they can enter more than one idea. The idea will later enter the room to form a"cloud". The more of the same ideas, the bigger the "cloud" will ap-

pear. It is from these clouds that students can start composing sentences until they are properly arranged into a paragraph. According to research conducted by Ance Jusmaya (2022) in the Paragraph Writing course, students at the University of Putera Batam, there is an increase in student motivation in writing. On his research, he found that Answer Garden could be a new minimalist feedback tool for stimulating real-time student engagement. If one of them does not find an idea, then later they will be helped by the ideas of other friends submitted on the Answer Garden application. Another study was also conducted by (Khairani,2021) who used the Answer Garden in the Simdig Class X subject at SMK Negeri 1 Siabu Mandailing Natal. The result is a contribution of 72.6% to student learning outcomes. In the study revealed that by using this application teachers will be easier to get feedback from students. In some studies focus on the final results obtained and the percentage of improvement that occurs. But in this study the authors aim to analyze the factors that cause the increase and the authors will also investigate the things that cause interference in the use of this application. This is so that the reader can be informed and also avoid things that allow failure in applying this method.

METODE

The research method used by the author is using Classroom Action Research (CAR) in which there are 4 stages of planning, acting, observing, and reflecting. Before conducting research, the author first conducts a discussion with the class teacher. In its implementation the author uses 2 cycle, which contains each cyclenya 1 time meeting. The implementation of this research was held at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember in May 2023, using 15 x-B class students as research subjects. This is used because the class is a tahfidz class or superior class which requires more learning portion and they have not received teaching materials in the form of Analytical Exposition text. Likewise, the data used will be 2 types, namely in the form of quantitative which is collected from the comparison of scores obtained when carrying out written tests and also qualitative data which is obtained by observation and dialogue with students when the learning process takes place.

HASIL DAN PEMBAHASAN

In this section, the author describes the findings obtained when conducting research on students of Class X-B in SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember by using the Answer Garden application in improving the ability to write Analytical Exposition texts.

A. Research Result Cycle I

A) Ability To Write Analytical Exposition Text

In the first cycle, several findings were found that had an impact on students ' ability to write Analytical Exposition text. In the first cycle students seem confused when using this application, not infrequently they ask some questions that indicate that they are still not familiar with the application. The example of the questions are:

"Miss, bagaimana cara login kedalam aplikasinya?"
"Miss, apakah harus daftar terlebih dahulu?"
"Miss, ini ditulis disebelah mana?"

The questions are asked after the teacher gives instructions. The second finding is that the Analytical Exposition text material is a material that has been taught 1 month before this study was conducted. The third finding is that there are constraints on the projector / LCD that makes the learning process temporarily hampered. In this cycle, the majority of students only write 1-2 ideas on each given subtopic.

B) Learning outcomes

In measuring students ' writing skills by using the Answer Garden as a Brainstorming medium for the author to provide a writing test. So get results like the table below:

Table 1 Writing Test Score Cycle I

No.	Description	Writing Test I
1.	Lowest score	60
2.	Highest score	75
3.	Mean	68.3
4.	Completed	8
5.	Not completed	7

In Table 1 Above, it is known that the achievement of the writing test results of X-B class students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember in semester 2 of the 2022/2023 academic year in the first cycle is as follows: the lowest value is 60, the highest value is 75, the average value is 68.3, and as many as 7 or 46.6 % students are complete, 8 are incomplete.

B. Research Result Cycle II

A) Ability To Write Analytical Exposition Text

In the second cycle found findings that make an increase in the ability of students in writing Analytical Exposition text. The first, students are getting used to the use of the Answer Garden application, they do not feel confused so that there are no more confusion indicator questions. All students have maximized the features on this application. Second, the teacher explains again with the details of the instructions used in this learning. Teachers also free students to use electronic dictionaries and Google in exploring ideas that are still related to the theme. Third, teachers make maximum preparation. Before doing the lesson the teacher prepares the LCD / projector 5 minutes before the lesson takes place. That way the student's learning activities are not disturbed. Fourth, teachers advise students to have discussions with students in finding new ideas related to the topics provided. In this second cycle, students manage to write 4-5 ideas on each topic.

B) Learning outcomes

In measuring students ' writing skills by using the Answer Garden as a Brainstorming medium for the author to provide a writing test. So get results like the table below:

Table 2 Writing Test Score Cycle II

No.	Description	Writing Test II
1.	Lowest score	80
2.	Highest score	85
3.	Mean	82
4.	Completed	15
5.	Not completed	0

In Table 2 above, it is known that the achievement of the writing test results of X-B class students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember in semester 2 of the 2022/2023 academic year in the second cycle is as follows: the lowest value is 80, the highest value is 85, the average value is 82, and as many as 15 or 100% students are complete.

C. Discussion

Based on the results of research, it has been found that Answer Garden can increase students ' interest in writing Analytical Exposition text. There is a significant increase in the average grade in Cycle I only reached 68.3, while in Cycle II the average grade reached a score of 82. Researchers found an increase of 53.4% in students ' ability to write Analytical Exposition text. This improvement can be seen in Graphic 1 :
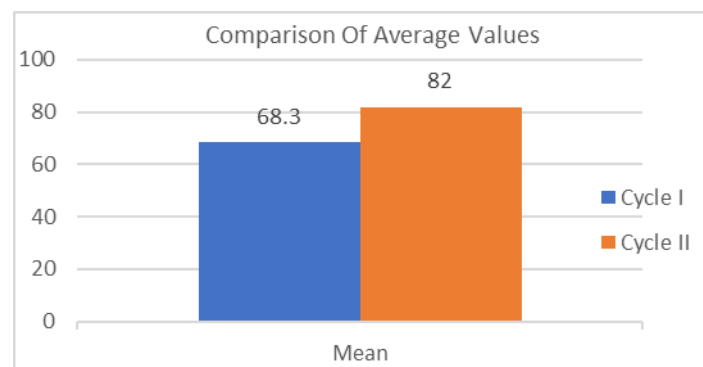
Graphic 1 Comparison of Average Values

In this study, it was found that there are several factors that cause an increase, the first is that in the Answer Garden application students can write more than one idea (Mark S. Ackerman, 1994). This makes students who initially could not get the idea at all be helped by the idea written by his friend. This other idea is the trigger for them to connect every idea related to the topic discussed. This process can also increase collaboration between students, they will not feel that writing is an individual and boring activity (Ance Jusmaya, 2022). Second, when students are given the freedom to explore ideas on the internet, they will then read any new information related to the topic. Because reading can add vocabulary and information needed by students in writing a text (Dalman, 2014). Third, the readiness of teachers in the classroom teaching and learning process. This is certainly very influential on student learning outcomes. When there are technical problems in the LCD / projector used will interfere with the concentration of students so that many parts of learning are skipped or even not implemented. For this reason, it is necessary to have a mature readiness so that the learning objectives can be achieved optimally (in et al., 2020). Fourth, teachers need to divide sub-topics so that the ideas written are not out of topic. When using the brainstorming method, students have freedom in expressing opinions. According to Mahmoud (2013), brainstorming provides opportunities in a real, active, and effective learning environment by participating in bilateral or collective discussions according to thought patterns that are consistent with their abilities and attitudes. But what needs to be considered is that the ideas written by students must be focused on the topic of discussion. For this reason, teachers can divide the main topic into several sub-topics so that students remain in the desired topic.

SIMPULAN

In carrying out English learning, especially Analytical Exposition text writing material, the right method is needed so that students do not feel bored. By using the Answer Garden application students are helped a lot because in this application students who do not find a single idea can collaborate with other friends who find many ideas. Teachers also need to create some sub-topics so that when the brainstorming process is carried out, none of the students write ideas out of the topic of discussion. In its implementation, it is necessary to have a thorough preparation from the teacher so that the learning process can take place optimally. The use of this application can take place optimally if the teacher can provide time management so that students become accustomed to disciplinary behavior both when the learning process in class or in everyday life.

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