# Student's Problem in Writing Results and Discussion Section of Research Articles for International Journals

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*Abstract*—In writing a research article student are expected to be able to write a good result and discussion in fact, they tend to use descriptive style which cannot categorize as a good result and discussion. Therefore, this research is aimed at describing students learning model in writing result and discussion. The method is qualitative method. The data were collected from classroom observation, recording, and interview when they were writing a research article based on research. The analysis of the data followed some steps namely; (1) collecting scores from expert assessment by inter-subjectivity test of 5 experts, (2) collecting pragmatic test result, (3) calculating the result of reliability and validity test, (4) designing the process indicator of learning based research (5) Synthesizing the data with the research indicator .The results of the study illustrate that there is a problem of scientific competence and mechanical mastery in writing result and discussion part. The problem of scientific competence includes; (1) stating unexpected result of the research (2) refer to previous research, (3) using various illustrations, (4) interpreting research results for scientific purposes, and (5) suggest for practical implementation of research findings. In conclusion, there are a number of scientific competence problems and mechanical competence problems are found. It is suggested that the learning process of writing result and discussion part which is oriented to publish the article in international Journal should be done continuously to the students and lecturers (in Supervising the students) in order to create adequate academic atmosphere.

*Keywords—writing a research article; student's problem; writing result and discussion*

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

It is found that the result and discussion part of the postgraduate students writing article style is not fulfill the requirement of academic article for reputable journal since the students write it in the form of descriptive text. This statement is supported by some previous studies which results show that the students writing of the result and discussion part is still in descriptive style which is not adequate for journal article [1]. The students find it difficult to write result and discussion part so that they write it incompletely [2]. They tend to only write this part on step 1, 2, and 5 [2]. Others research found result and discussion part is written based on communicative unit on step 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8, which reflect to the negative understanding of the readers [3,4]. It means that the reader does not get adequate information from the student's research report. In other word, the information written by the students is incomplete [5,6]. Moreover, the research report is categorized as incomplete based on academic rhetorical construction point of view. Even though 80 % of postgraduate students of Bahasa Indonesia Education are teachers from different level (SD, SMP, SMA) and also lecturer of private universities from different district of Bengkulu Province. Moreover, based on the result of tracer study has been done; some of them come from other provinces such as Bangka Belitung and Papua. In general, this condition will influence the quality of education in Indonesia since teacher is the most important element in education. The improvement of the teacher's competence means the improvement of the quality of education. Unfortunately, it has not yet been reached.

Meanwhile, one of the efforts to improve the quality of education in postgraduate program of Bahasa Indonesia Education in Indonesia is by requiring the students to write journal article before commencing final examination. It is assumed that if the students follow the guideline of writing style of the referred journal, the thesis should be written the same or at least almost the same. Besides, it is expected that there will be improvement in scholar citation index. It is clear that there is unbalance condition between the expectation and the real condition of students writing style of result and discussion part in article journal. Thus, it is interested to be researched about the problems of students in writing result and discussion part in the teaching and learning activity.

### B. Research Objective

The objective of this research is to describe the students of Bahasa Indonesia and English Education postgraduate study programs problems in writing result and discussion part of research report to be published in international journals. Thus, this research is going to describe Student's Problem in Writing Results and Discussion Section of Research Articles for International Journals

## C. Significance of the Research

The finding of the research is expected to be useful to the improvement of students writing quality especially to the development of the students' ways of thinking through the identification of student's problems in writing article for international journal (Postgraduate Students of Language Education (Bahasa Indonesia and English). Moreover, it will be beneficial in setting the students' activity program of writing article under integrated research and creating academic atmosphere to support the realization of institution vision and mission.

## II. METHODOLOGY

This research was designed as qualitative research. The data were in the form of information regarding students' problem in writing result and discussion part of journal article. There were 6 students from Bahasa Indonesia postgraduate program and English Education postgraduate program participated in this research. Students' participation had been approved by the coordinator of the program through Focus Group Discussion and supported by legal document of conducting observation, interview and other activities which needed students' participation No: 2585/UN30.7/HK/2018, to submit final report to the program at the end of the research. Observation and interview were done on odd semester of 2017/2018. Technique of collecting the data was used descriptive field note observation and reflective note in order to complete the instrument of learning process observation which had been validated by 5 experts. The instrument is set by considering 4 aspects of referred behavior [7], namely (a) Lecturer's behavior in supervising students writing the thesis, (b) Lecturer's behavior in out of class context, (c) Cognitive aspect, and (d) Student's psychomotor aspect. The data of this research were taken during classroom activities of odd semester 2017/2018.

## A. Data Analysis Technique

The data were analyzed by following some steps (a) Transcribing the data, Scanning the material, typing the field data, or classifying the data into types based on the source of information, and coding the data,(b) reading the overall data to build *general sense* or gathered information and reflecting the meaning in general,(c) processing the information in the transcription result into writing segments before giving the meaning, (d) classifying the gathered information based on set categories [8], and (e) Interpreting the data, (f) writing the report.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result of the research supports the problem of student's difficulties which is formulated by Swales [9]. It shows 4 aspects of difficulties in writing result and discussion part. The student's difficulties problem based on the research are: 1) lecturer's behavior in supervising the students, (2) Lecturer's behavior in out of class context, (c) Cognitive aspect, and (d) Student's psychomotor aspect. The result of the research can be described as follow.

## A. Lecturer's Behavior in Supervising the Students

Based on the result of data analysis, it is described that the lecturer behavior aspect in supervising the students is the determining behavior aspect of student's activities in writing result and discussion part of an article. Based on the data analysis, students tend to ignore the notes made by the lecturer as the revision of students writing. Based on the interview to the students and the lecturers, 95% of the students think that the notes made by lecturer are not useful. It is because writing journal article is not one of the requirements of graduation even though it becomes the requirement of final examination. Therefore, the system which oriented to the graduation letter should be changed. It means that writing result and discussion part for journal article for the students should be designed until sufficient to be published. Therefore, the student's behavior should be changed. Moreover, based on the result of the interview, 90% of the students tend to imitate the previous students writing style. They fell that that they do not have enough knowledge in writing result and discussion part. This condition is in contrast with the effort has been done by the program which provide academic writing course as one of compulsory course (2 credits). Therefore, the additional letter of graduation letter should play an important role in including writing article journal thus writing result and discussion part becomes important

The result also shows that 99% of the students have not yet realized suggestions and tasks given by the lecturers in writing result and discussion part. It is because the product of academic writing given in the first semester has not designed as student's final research or for thesis draft topic. The first solution for this problem, after some discussion with collages on October 2$^{nd}$ 2018, is by providing lecturers' research roadmap which has been signed by the institution, so that the students can choose or follow the lecturers' research roadmap and do the research of the chosen topic with the lecturers as collaboration research. Moreover, the study program should support this program by providing students the financial source. The result of the research will be granted as collaboration research work. The benefit of this design is the students will be helped from financial source while the lecturers are helped in collecting the data. Thus, one research will result two journal articles. On the other side, there will be academic atmosphere repairmen where the students and lecturers can access various journals which are subscribed by the institutions as the effect of lecturer's research roadmap. The worth effect of creating academic atmosphere is by reviewing the journal articles in all courses so that students will get used to follow the most up to date topic which can help them to choose the topic for their thesis. It is expected that the availability of academic instruments of the study program will realize the design of structured supervision so that can improve student's ability in writing result and discussion part since student's academic knowledge of research topic based on research. Simply, it is illustrated as follow:
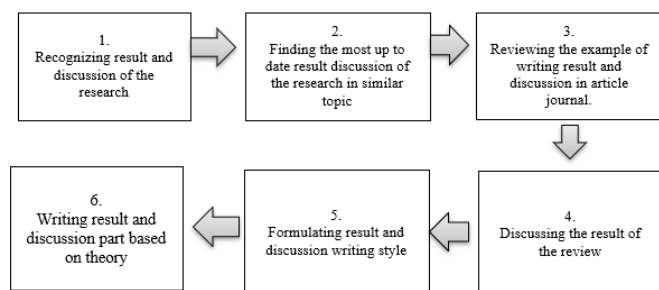
Fig. 1. Flowchart of writing result and discussion part supervision (result of Focus Group Discussion).

Chart 1 is the flowchart of supervision which has been agreed in focus group discussion of the study program in the effort to solve the problem of student's difficulties in writing result and discussion part. The Focus Group Discussion was attended by the coordinator of the study program and all home based lecturers. Moreover, the discussion also recommends the study program to collaborate with other study program's journal manager in order to achieve the international journal quality. It was also wondering in the discussion that the government through Ministry of Research Technology and Higher Education supports the improvement of article journal writing so that the quality of the articles can be submitted in international journal. Reward is also needed to be given to those who are able to publish the article in the indexed journal.

### B. Lecturer's Behavior in out of Class Context

Based on the observation to the subjects of this research, most of them (up to 80%) are the employee such as teachers, staff in the language institutions, and staff of education and culture departments from Bengkulu city and some districts. The rest (20%) are fresh graduates who have just finished their undergraduate program. It is stated that they got difficulty to focus on writing result and discussion part since they have to share their time to work. This phenomenon should be followed up by supporting system which can create academic atmosphere of the study program in writing journal article, especially result and discussion part. Some policies regarding academic atmosphere of writing article journal have been released such as Rector Policy about plagiarism and suggestion from the coordinator of study program in every final examination, that the information in result and discussion should follow rhetoric structure of Swales. It is because rhetoric structure from Swales included clear steps in informing result and discussion of the research.

The rhetoric structure follows some steps namely (a) information about the research, (b)statement about the result of the research, (c)statements about unexpected result (d)refer to some previous research, (e)explanation about the result of the research, (f) Researcher's interpretation toward the finding of the research, and(f) researcher's suggestion as the practical implementation of the research finding. Based on the result of the analysis, the subjects of the research write the result and discussion part with the following illustration;

TABLE I.    THE RESULT OF TEXT RHETORIC STRUCTURE OF THE RESULT AND DISCUSSION PART ON RESEARCH ARTICLE JOURNAL ON LANGUAGE FIELD

| Steps | Communicative Objective | Frequency n= 50 | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Information about the research | 39 | 78 |
| 2 | Statements of the research finding | 49 | 98 |
| 3 | Statement about the unexpected finding | 3 | 6 |
| 4 | References from some previous research | 4 | 8 |
| 5 | Explanation about the result of the research | 44 | 88 |
| 6 | Supporting illustration to explain the result of the research | 11 | 22 |
| 7 | Researcher's interpretation toward the finding of the research. | 22 | 44 |
| 8 | Researcher's suggestion as practical implementation of the research finding. | 6 | 12 |

Table 1 describes the part of rhetoric structure which is frequently written by the subjects; it seems that students tend to write certain rhetoric structure. The highest frequency is statement about the result of the research, explain the result of the research, and inform the result of the research. Meanwhile the other rhetoric structures are very important in enriching the concept of result and discussion part which describes the result and discussion proposed by Swales.

### C. Cognitive Aspect

Cognitive Aspect is the most dominant aspect in writing skill since writing is stated as one of the most difficult skill to be learnt compared to the others skills such as reading, listening, and speaking [3,9]. This aspect cognitively is influenced by the culture of the subject. Therefore, in writing their idea, the students tend to use oral language style in the form of written. The result of data analysis shows that all the subjects have a good cognitive competence or intelligence, but the academic atmosphere does not support it so that their cognitive competence becomes weaker. The data of the student's cognitive competence was taken from the result of Academic potential test which showed good result. Moreover, it can be seen during the process of learning activities in the class.

The data shows that during the activity of learning to write article journal, which is guided by the curriculum, the students followed the learning process enthusiastically and can understand all of the material from book of Swales [9] and Arsyad [1]. However, the students have not been able to produce research report in which the discussion part is still written incompletely.

### D. Psychomotor and Behavior Aspect

Psychomotor and behavior aspects of the subjects when writing the article become the representation of the article produced by the subjects. There is a tendency that this aspect plays an important role, since behavior aspect is influenced by

local and national culture that becomes local and national wisdom. The behavior aspect discussed here is oral culture.

Based on the result of the data analysis, behavior aspect is rather bothering for the subjects so that they got difficulties in reading and writing research article journal genre in bahasa Indonesia or in English. It is very important to change oral culture in order to make the subjects idea and behavior can be accepted in the national and international journals. The subjects' habits which can bother the openness of the knowledge should be repaired. For international journal article which should be written in English, Indonesian researcher must be able to write in good English and follow the writing rhetoric of the preferred journal. Based on that expectation, writing argumentative article with scientific indicators should begin earlier, started from the first-time students' work on their final task (thesis) with the supervision of the supervisor and supported with the academic atmosphere created by the institution. In order to make lecturer pleased and able to supervise the students appropriately, there should be opportunities and ability in writing published article journal. The same thing has been done [5].

## IV. CONCLUSION

Identifying the problem specifically has to be done in order to analyze the subjects' difficulties in writing, especially in writing indexed and international journal. It becomes crucial since the subjects can actively contribute in the development of science in the national and international level. Moreover, it can be a media to introduce Indonesia in the international science community. The identification of the problems in writing are classified into some aspects; (1) lecturer's behavior while supervising the students, (2) Lecturer's behavior in out class context (3) cognitive aspects, and (4) psychomotoric aspects.

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