



**A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE EIGHTH GRADE
STUDENTS' DESCRIPTIVE TEXT WRITING ABILITY AT
MTsN TLASIH IN THE 2010/2011 ACADEMIC YEAR**

THESIS

By

**EFI SELVIA KRISTANTI
NIM 070210401021**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION PROGRAM
LANGUAGE AND ARTS DEPARTMENT
THE FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
JEMBER UNIVERSITY**

2011



**A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE EIGHTH GRADE
STUDENTS' DESCRIPTIVE TEXT WRITING ABILITY AT
MTsN TLASIH IN THE 2010/2011 ACADEMIC YEAR**

THESIS

**Composed to fulfill one of the requirements to obtain S1 Degree
at the English Education Program, Language and Arts Education Department
The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Jember University**

By:

**EFI SELVIA KRISTANTI
NIM 070210401021**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION PROGRAM
LANGUAGE AND ARTS DEPARTMENT
THE FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
JEMBER UNIVERSITY**

2011

CONSULTANT'S APPROVAL

A Descriptive Study of the Eighth Grade Students' Descriptive Text Writing Ability at MTsN Tlasih in the 2010/2011 Academic Year

THESIS

Composed to fulfill one of the requirements to obtain S1 Degree at the English Education Program of the Language and Arts Education Department of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Jember University

Name : Efi Selvia Kristanti
Identification Number : 070210401021
Level : 2007
Place, Date of Birth : Sidoarjo, April 3rd, 1989
Department : Language and Arts
Program : English Education

Consultants

Consultant I : Dr. Budi Setyono, M.A.
Consultant II : Dra. Zakiyah Tasnim, M.A.

APPROVAL OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

This thesis entitled ‘**A Descriptive Study of the Eighth Grade Students’ Descriptive Text Writing Ability at MTsN Tlasih in the 2010/2011 Academic Year**’ is approved and received by the Examination Committee of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Jember University.

Day : Monday

Date : October 31st, 2011

Place : The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education

Examiners Team

The Chairperson

Secretary

Drs. Annur Rofiq, M.A, M.Sc
NIP 1968102519990301001

Dra. Zakiyah Tasnim, M.A.
NIP 196201101987022001

The Member I,

The Member II,

Dra. Musli Ariani, M.App Ling.
NIP 196806021994032001

Dr. Budi Setyono, M.A.
NIP 19630707171990021001

The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education

The Dean,

Drs. Imam Muchtar, S.H.,M.Hum.
NIP. 19540712 198003 1 005

DEDICATION

This thesis is honorably dedicated to:

- 1. My beloved parents, Suprpto and Asmaul Khusnah, thank you very much for your prayer and your endless love.*
- 2. My beloved sisters Novita Dewi and Andini Milanking, thank you so much for your support.*
- 3. Ardam Asmara Ghandy, thank you so much for always make me smile when I am down.*

MOTTO

“Knowing is not enough; we must apply

Willing is not enough; we must do”

(Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe)

“When everything seems impossible, it can be turning to possible.

Just believe you can do it”

(Anonymus)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I would like to express my greatest gratitude to Allah, for blessing me and giving me strength so I can finish my thesis entitled “*A Descriptive Study of the Eighth Grade Students’ Descriptive Text Writing Ability at MTsN Tlasih in the 2010/2011 Academic Year*”.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation and sincerest thanks to the following people:

1. The Dean of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Jember University,
2. The Chairperson of the Language and Arts Department,
3. The Chairperson of the English Education Programs,
4. My first consultant, Dr. Budi Setyono, M.A, and my second consultant, Dra. Zakiyah Tasnim, M.A., for their guidance and valuable suggestions in accomplishing this thesis.
5. My Academic Supervisor, Dra. Wiwik Eko Bindarti, M.Pd,
6. The examination committee who give me a lot of suggestions.
7. The lecturers of the English Education Program who have taught and given me a lot of knowledge,
8. The Principal, the English teacher, and the eighth grade students of MTsN Tlasih who helped and participated willingly to involve in this research,

I believe that this thesis still has some weaknesses. Therefore, I really hope that there will be criticism and suggestions from the readers to make this thesis better. I also hope that this thesis will be useful for the readers.

Jember, October 2011

Writer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER	ii
CONSULTANT’S APPROVAL	iii
APPROVAL OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE	iv
DEDICATION	v
MOTTO	vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	viii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xi
LIST OF TABLES	xii
SUMMARY	xiii

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Research	1
1.2 The Problems of the Research	4
1.3 The Objectives of the Research	4
1.4 The Operational Definitions	4
1.5 The Significance of the Research	5

CHAPTER 2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Writing Ability	6
2.1.1 Content	7
2.1.2 Organization	8
2.1.3 Grammar	9
2.1.4 Vocabulary	10
2.1.5 Mechanic	12
2.2 Descriptive Text	13

2.3 The Teaching of Writing on Descriptive Texts	
at MTsN Tlasih	16

CHAPTER 3. RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Design	18
3.2 Area Determination Method	18
3.3 Population	19
3.4 Sample	19
3.5 Data Collection Method	20
3.5.1 Data of the Study	20
3.5.2 Writing Test	20
3.6 Data Analysis Method	21

CHAPTER 4. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1 The Result of Writing Test	23
4.2 The Students' Descriptive Text Writing Ability	24
4.3 The Students' Writing Ability Classification	25
4.4 Discussion	26

CHAPTER 5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusion	35
5.2 Suggestions	35

REFERENCES

APPENDICES

LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1. Research Matrix
- Appendix 2. Writing Test
- Appendix 3. The Scoring Guide
- Appendix 4. The Names of Respondents
- Appendix 5. Sample of the Students' Test Result
- Appendix 6. Students' Score in Writing Descriptive Text
- Appendix 7. The Classification of the Students' scores in Writing
Descriptive Text
- Appendix 8. Students' Score in Content
- Appendix 9. Students' Score in Organization
- Appendix 10. Students' Score in Grammar
- Appendix 11. Students' Score in Vocabulary
- Appendix 12. Students' Score in Mechanic
- Appendix 13. Students' Classification Score in Each Aspect of Writing
- Appendix 14. Research Permission Letter from the Dean of Faculty of Teacher
Training and Education of Jember University
- Appendix 15. Statement Letter of Accomplishing the Research from the Principal of
MTsN Tlasih

THE LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 2.1 The Details of Descriptive Text	12
Table 2.2 Example of Descriptive Text and the Parts.....	13
Table 3.1 The Number of the Samples Taken by Using Proportional Random Sampling by Lottery	18
Table 4.1 The Frequency Distribution of the Students' Writing Score.....	22
Table 4.2 Students' Ability Based on the Students' Standard Score.....	23
Table 4.3 Students' Classification Score in Each Aspect of Writing.....	30

SUMMARY

A Descriptive Study of the Eighth Grade Students' Descriptive Text Writing Ability at MTsN Tlasih in the 2010/2011 Academic Year; Efi Selvia Kristanti, 070210401021; 2011:36 pages; English Education Program of Language and Arts Education Department, the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Jember University.

In Indonesia, English is taught as a compulsory subject especially for Junior and Senior High School students. There are four skills that must be mastered by the students in English teaching learning process namely speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Many learners regard writing as the most difficult and complicated skill. To compose a good writing, the students should consider some aspects such as grammar, mechanics, content, vocabulary, and organization when they write (Harthfiel, 1985:89).

This research was Descriptive Research. It was intended to describe the eighth grade students' descriptive text writing ability and the students' ability in each aspect of writing. It was conducted at MTsN Tlasih chosen by purposive method. The sample of this research was taken through proportional random sampling by lottery as many as 50% from the population. Thus, the number of the sample taken was 50 students. The problems of the research was "How is the eighth grade students' descriptive text writing ability at MTsN Tlasih?" and "What are the categories of the eighth grade students' ability in writing descriptive text at MTsN Tlasih?"

The data of this research were collected by conducting descriptive text writing test. The test was in the form of essay. The students were asked to write a descriptive text based on the picture chosen consisting of 2-3 short paragraphs.

The result of the students' descriptive text writing test showed that the eighth grade students' descriptive text writing ability at MTsN Tlasih in general was 67.22 which achieved the students' standard score (SKM). It meant that their ability

categorized as good. Based on the Studentd' Standard Score (SKM), it can be known that the categories of the eighth grade students' ability in writing descriptive text at MTsN Tlasih are 64% of students categorized as good and 36% of students categorized as fair

Based on the students' classification score in each aspect of writing, it can be concluded that the most serious problem of the eighth grade students' descriptive text writing ability at MTsN Tlasih was grammar because most of the students categorized as fair. Most of the students not mastered well and still got difficulties in making grammatically correct and meaningful sentences especially simple present tense. It was supported by 39 students (78%) gained fair score in this aspect.

The results also showed that the students are good in the aspect of organization supported by 39 of students (78%) gained good score in this aspect which meant that the students' writing was well-organized although the supporting ideas sometimes did not fit with the main idea, and also lack of coherence. While the

The students' problem in vocabulary is most of the students' lack of vocabularies. They also made some errors of word choice and usage that sometimes make the meaning of the sentences obscured and difficult to understand. While the students' problem in the aspect of content is most of their writing is relevant with the topic they have chosen but lack details. It might be caused the students did not have much information about the topic. The students' problem in mechanic is their writing did not show their mastery in using capital letter, punctuation devices, and word spelling well.