

THE SUITABILITY OF DESCRIPTIVE TEXT IN TEXTBOOK OF STUDENT GRADE SEVEN BASED ON CURRICULUM

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to analyze the extent does the presentation of descriptive text in the textbook student grade seven and analyze factors caused the presentation the way it is. The study used qualitative descriptive method. The subjects of this study were two textbooks of student grade seven. The technique of data collecting was by analyzed using several steps according to Miles's theory, Huberman and Saldana (2014) analyze data with three steps: data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification. After analyzing the data, the researcher found the text structure in two textbook is mpt perfect yet. The text structure of descriptive text which is classification in textbook by Kemendikbud is unavailable while in Erlangga, the location in descriptive text is unavailable. But, the components of lexicogrammatical is presented well. The result of the study showed that the reason underlying the imperfectness is financial factor. Erlangga publisher is purpose to gaining a financial benefit, while Kemendikbud publisher is not motivated by the profit.

Keywords: *descriptive text, textbook, curriculum 2013*

*Graduate Status

**Lecturer Status

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

There is no denial that learning English has become an absolute necessity in today's globalized world. For better or worse, by choice or force, English has "traveled" to many parts of the world and has been used to serve various purposes (Sharifian in Naji and Pishghadam, 2012: 84). According to Chang (2006), "English has been the prevailing foreign language in the curriculum of educational institutions and in foreign language learning. English as an International Language (EIL) is a term used to characterize the status of English as the world's major second language and the commonest language used for international business, trade, travel, communication, and many others."

Realizing the importance of English language in globalization era, recently, Indonesian government has implemented English subject into the academic curriculum as compulsory subject to be taught in Junior and Senior High School. Recently, by Peraturan Pemerintah No.32 Th. 2013 the educational system of Indonesia has launched the 2013 curriculum. The aim of this curriculum is preparing Indonesian people to be religious, productive, creative, and innovative. Furthermore, it is hoped that they also can give contribution for their social life, nation, country and world civilization. This new launched curriculum has Core and Basic competences and uses Scientific Approach in its teaching and learning process.

Due to the new launched curriculum, there are several changes in some parts of education, including the teaching materials. Teaching materials can be

developed from many learning sources, one of it is from textbook, thus, it also need special attention regarding its changes toward recent applied curriculum. The adjustment of textbook to the recent curriculum should be conducted because English teachers tend to display a strong reliance on textbook usage. A good textbook should be reflected the curriculum which is applied. It is because there is a strong relationship between both of them. The relationship of textbook and curriculum can be described as water and fish, or as the two sides of coin, two butone, one but two (Tarigan and Tarigan, 1990: 66). It should be matched with the goal of the curriculum and be able to support curriculum and facilitate the processof teaching and learning. The main textbooks used in English teaching and learning process in2013 curriculum are teacher and student book which are published by Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia (MECI). Teacher book is textbook that is published for the teachers. It contains the procedures and tips how to teach English use student book. Whereas student book is the textbook that is published for the students. It contains materials that will be learned by the students. For Junior High School, the English textbooks entitled “When English Rings a Bell”. Although this book is published by Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia (MECI), no one can guarantee that the materials in this book are relevant with the Core and Basic Competence in 2013 Curriculum.

According to those reasons stated, this study is aimed to analyze the student book for seventh grade based on the relevance of materials with the Core and Basic competence in 2013 curriculum.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

According to Richard (2015), Textbook is a form of published printed material most commonly used as teaching and learning media in schools or any educational institution. It is one of the most important media in learning and teaching process as it serves as a source and guideline to both students and teacher.

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From many explanations served above, A good textbook is very crucial for both teacher and student. For teacher, it serves as a guide for each lesson. Textbook for language learning consists of several chapters. Each chapter will discuss different types and level of language skill. This will help both student and teacher focus on materials they will teach or learn. Textbook not only can provide general ideas for teacher to develop activities suitable for every topic, but also

give a brief view for student on what they should expect for next learning session and at the same time serve as their reference for practices.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FINDINGS

Methodology

This research was conducted with descriptive qualitative design. Qualitative research focuses on understanding social phenomena in natural setting. Moreover, descriptive qualitative design is the method when straight descriptions of phenomena are desired (Sandelowski, 2000). Thus, descriptive qualitative design is used to describe an experience or event in natural setting by displaying words on its interpretation rather than number.

In this study, the researcher described what extent the presentation of descriptive text in textbook of student seventh grade.

Data were analyzed using several steps according to Miles's theory, Huberman and Saldana (2014) analyze data with three steps: data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

There were some finding found in this research after analyzing the data. The finding in this research were as follows.

1. There are two of textbooks used by student grade seven in junior high school namely When English Rings a Bell by Kemendikbud and

English on Sky by Erlangga. In the two textbook, the presentation of descriptive text was analyzed. There were 2 kind of components of descriptive text that discussed which is text structure and lexicogrammar.

2. The factor underlying in writing of textbook is purpose to gaining a financial benefit through the quality of textbook. Intense competition between textbook publishers is a factor that causes publishers to write a good textbook based on the curriculum 2013 that government has set.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

Based on the result of the study, conclusion are drawn as follows:

1. The presentation of descriptive text in the two textbook is not perfect. The two textbook present the lexicogrammar of descriptive text well, while the text structure of descriptive text are not presented thoroughly.
2. The reason underlying the imperfectness is financial factor. Erlangga publisher is purpose to gaining a financial benefit, while Kemendikbud publisher is not motivated by the profit.

Suggestions

Based on the conclusion, suggestions are put forwarded as follows:

1. The authors should write descriptive text based on the parts of descriptive text, especially the completeness of the text structure.

2. The publishers should improve the quality of the textbook, not only to gain the financial profit.
3. This study is not perfect because the data is not enough to prove the study. It is suggested that the other researcher to conduct the same research with more data.

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