

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ROUNDTABLE TECHNIQUE ON WRITING  
ABILITY IN DESCRIPTIVE TEXT**

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# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ROUNDTABLE TECHNIQUE ON WRITING ABILITY IN DESCRIPTIVE TEXT

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## *Abstract*

*Writing is an important skill in language learning to development idea, knowledge and experience. In this research, the writer takes Roundtable Technique toward students' writing ability of descriptive text. In this research, the researcher used true experimental research. The result of research, there was a significant difference between the students' pre-test and post-test in the experimental class and pre-test and post-test in the control class. The mean score of pre-test in experimental class was 63.21, while the mean score of pre-test in control group class was 60.7. Meanwhile, the mean score of post-test in experimental class was 68.4 and the mean score of post-test in control group class was 69.5. Based on the finding and discussion of the research, it can be concluded that roundtable technique is influence toward students' writing ability of descriptive text.*

**Keyword :** *Roundtable technique, writing.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

As a productive skill, writing competence becomes one of important factors to build their knowledge of English. Harmer (2004: 31) stated that "writing is often not time-bound in the way conversation", Harmer said, "writing has always been used as a means of reinforcing language that has been taught", furthermore Harmer said, "writing is frequently useful as preparation for some other activity in particular when students write sentences as a preamble to discussion activities". (Harmer.2004:33)

Nowdays which involves the development of an idea, the capture of mental representations of knowledge, and of experience with subject. It's mean that, writing very important skill to learn foreign language to development idea, knowledge and experience. Jacobs et al (1981: 90) there are five aspect of writing: content, organization, grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics.

From the preliminary of writing descriptive text, 21,8% students could express their ideas in descriptive text based on topic, 19,6% of the students could organize based on organization of writing descriptive text. 21,4% of

students also lack vocabulary, there only 18 % of the students know about the language used of descriptive text. For mechanics 19% students got it. It means there was problem of students' mechanic in writing descriptive text.

Based on the phenomena above, the current researcher was inspired to apply roundtable technique in teaching writing. The roundtable technique is one of teaching technique where the teacher give the picture and divided the students into groups consist of 4 or 5 students, the groups are divided the heterogeneous and it is considered based on the score before, (Isjoni as cited in Astuti, 2003:14). Therefore, it is interesting and exciting when this research is attempted to combine both teaching techniques with students' personality. The teaching procedure of the roundtable technique is divided into the following three steps: preparation, procedure, and implementation cited by Kagan (2009:6.34). These steps develop students composing write appropriate the process, the students take benefit approach process and got write genre of the text.

Based on that facts the researcher is interested in conducted the research of the influence of used roundtable technique toward students writing ability in descriptive text. The researcher proposes a research entitles "The effectiveness of roundtable technique on writing ability in descriptive text".

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

According to Sugiyono (2010: 73), there are several forms of design experiments are: pre-

experimental design, true experimental design, factorial design, and quasi experimental design. The researcher has used a true experimental design that can be used to know the effect of a treatment method. The randomized pretest-posttest control group design involves two groups, both of which are formed by random assignment. One group received the experimental treatment while the other does not, and then both groups are posttested on the dependent variable.

The design involve in SMP N 4 Pringsewu, in the class VIII.A and VIII.B to be participant of the research, each class consist of 30 and 32 students.

In this research, the researcher was divided into two groups class VIII.A as the experimental group, and VIII.B as the control group. The research design involve pre-test before treatment consist of content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanic in VIII.A as experimental class. In the experimental research, there are two variables that will be manipulated by the researcher. There are independent variable (X) and dependent variable (Y). independent variable is a factor which is manipulated by the researcher to determine the relationship between the phenomena observe. While dependent variable is a factor which is observe and measure to determine the effect of independent variable.

### **1. Independent Variable**

The independent variable in this research is Roundtable technique

### **2. Dependent Variable**

The dependent variable in this research is influence students' writing ability of descriptive text.

### 3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Based on the result of research, the data has shown that students' post-test result was higher than pre-test result, it indicated that Roundtable Technique has successes to be applied in a class to teach descriptive text in writing skill. The researcher was collected the data by using the technique collecting data in the form of instrument test, the test is a tool used to obtain students learning outcomes after using Roundtable Technique on the experimental class and jigsaw on the control class. The result between experimental and control class was different. In class experimental class has better achievement after they got treatments using roundtable technique helps students to find out the word as the ideas that will develop their vocabulary and to support their paragraph content, then the students' write the sentence base on the word that will develop, than control class that using jigsaw method. It can be proved by the increasing average score in both classes. The average score of pre-test in control class is 60.7 and experimental class is 63.21 . The average of post-test in control class is 68.43 and experimental class is 69.56. In this case that can be proved by the result of post-test after treatment was given.

The result of data analysis is which  $t_{\text{observed}} < t_{\text{critical}}$  ( $t_{\text{observed}} = 0.63$  and  $t_{\text{critical}} = 2.00$ ). Based on the data,  $H_a$  accepted, because  $t_{\text{observed}} > t_{\text{critical}}$   $2.00 > 0.63$ . The result of the research showed that the experimental class got better score in writingability than the control class. It happened because the students were taught writing by Roundtable Technique. This was a good

method to teach writingability to the students. It was different from the control class that was taught by Jigsaw Method. Consequently, this strategy in teaching learning process, the researcher would solve the students problems or difficulties and expected to be effective way to solve the problems in teaching writing. It is improve the students' writing ability of studying in the classroom..

From the discussion above, it can be concluded that there is the influence of roundtable technique toward students' writing ability of descriptive text. It proves that Roundtable Technique is one of good strategy to improve the students' achievement, especially in writing descriptive text.

### 4. CONCLUSION

After conducting the treatment and analyzing the data, the researcher can conclude that there was a significant influence of roundtable technique toward writing skill of descriptive text. This strategy has positive effect toward students writing skill. From the result of experimental class, it can be seen that the result of experimental class is higher than control class. It means that using roundtable technique in teaching writing skill of descriptive text has positive effect to the students' writing skill.

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