

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECT OF SENTENCE COMBINING PRACTICE IN STUDENTS' WRITING ACHIEVEMENT BY USING DESCRIPTIVE TEXT A CASE STUDY AT SMA AL KAUTSAR BANADAR LAMPUNG

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Theoretically, among the four language skills, writing is the most difficult skills to learn. This is true because these skills cover many crucial aspects such as organization, vocabulary, and grammar. It was found in the field that there are some students who experienced difficulties in writing activities when they achieve the writing skills.

This study aimed to discover the effect of applying sentence Combining Practice on students' achievement in writing descriptive text. It was conducted by using experimental research design. The population of this research was the tenth (X) grade students of SMA Al-Kautsar with eight parallel classes. The sample of this research was class X.4 which was chosen by using lottery technique. Thirty five students were taken as the sample.

The instrument for collecting the data was a writing test. Pearson Product Moment formula was applied to obtain the reliability of the test. Based on the calculation, it showed that the reliability of the pre-test was 0.81 categorized as very high reliability, meanwhile reliability of the post test was 0.70 categorized as high reliability.

The result of the research showed the average score of students' writing achievement in the pretest was 59.171. While in posttest the average score of students' writing achievement was 70.686, which indicated that the score rose 11.515 points. This research used paired sample t-test the significance of students' writing achievement from pre-test to post-test, after analyzing the data, it was found that the value of t was -9.575 with the degree of freedom (df)=34 at the level of significance ($\alpha = 0.05$). It could be pointed out that t observed was higher than t table ($9.575 > 2.0301$). The result of this study showed that Sentence Combining Practice had a significant effect on students' writing achievement by using descriptive text.

Keyword: *writing, descriptive text, Sentence Combining Practice*