## **ABSTRACT**

Faizatul Mutmainnah. 2016. Improving the Eighth Grade Students' Writing Ability by Using Freewriting Technique at SMPN 2 Kalibaru In the Academic Year of 2015/2016. Thesis. First Advisor: Dr. Hanafi, M.Pd.; Second Advisor: Indri Astutik, M.Pd.

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This study is aimed at describing the use of freewriting technique in improving the eighth grade students' writing ability. The research method in this study is classroom action research where the subject of this study is the eighth grade students of SMPN 2 Kalibaru especially the eighth grade students of VIIIC class. The total numbers of students was 24, all together consisted of 15 males and 9 females. The data was in the form of observation checklist in every meeting of each cycle and a test at the end of each cycle. This research conducted in cycle.

Before applying the technique into teaching and learning process, the researcher did preliminary study by asking the English teacher about the students last score in writing. It was known that the mean of students' last score in writing was 60 which only 25% of students passed the target score (70). It means that the students' ability in writing was low. While, for the students active participation, there were only 50% of students who were active during teaching and learning process, while the requirement of students active participation during teaching and learning process is 75%.

The result of Cycle 1 showed that the percentage of students who got score  $\geq 70$  was 45%. While, based on the observation checklist it was found that only 52.12% of students were involved in class or active and 47.8% students were passive. In Cycle 2, the percentage of students who got score  $\geq 70$  was 70.8%. While, based on the observation checklist it was found that 82% were active during the process of learning. These results clearly described that the teaching writing skill by using freewriting technique to the eighth grade students of SMPN 2 Kalibaru in the academic year of 2015/2016 could improve the students' writing ability and also increased the students active participation

The conclusion of this research is freewriting technique can improve the eighth grade students' writing ability and students' active participation at SMPN 2 Kalibaru in the academic year of 2015/2016. The suggestions based on the conclusion are: first, for the learners, freewriting can be used to help them generate ideas and to write easily. Besides, if freewriting is done regularly, it helps students to improve their writing ability. Second, for the English Teacher, , it is suggested to the teacher to consider free writing as additional technique in teaching writing for EFL/ESL students and it is a contribution in English language teaching and learning, particularly in the way how to improve students' writing ability.