

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION TOWARDS LEARNING ACTIVITY USING PICTURE IN WRITING CLASS

M. Yusuf Yusa R. ¹⁾, Fitrotul Mufaridah, M.Pd ²⁾, Kristi Nuraini, M.Pd ³⁾

English Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education,
University of MuhammadiyahJember

Jl. Karimata 49, Jember, Telp. (0331) 336728, fax. 337957

Email: yusayusuf679@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Students' perception is a process of students that involves their five senses to assess, defining and responding to information obtained from an action that has been experienced. Using picture as media on their learning activity especially writing skill could lead various students' perception. Therefore, it is important to do research entitled "Students' Perception Toward Learning Activity Using Picture in Writing Class". The problem of the research was "What is student's perception toward their learning activity using picture in writing class?". The aim of the research was to know what are students' perception on their learning activity using picture in writing class. Researcher employed descriptive qualitative approach. The respondents of this research were 33 second semester students who enrolled on guided writing class at Universitas Muhammadiyah Jember. While the research instrument applied in this research was Questionnaire and Interview then supported by writing lecture explanation about how the respondents class conducted. An online questionnaire and interview form were chosen in order to adjust today's situation that both the researcher and respondents must keep the physical distance. To ensure valid findings or data, the researcher need to do triangulation. Triangulation is multi-method approach which means the researcher had to compare the all result of the instruments of the research obtained for measuring the data was valid. The result of the research show some students perception toward using picture as media on their writing learning activity. They perceived that picture pictures help students with their vocabulary and gaining or brainstorming ideas to help them in writing sentences. Therefore, it can be concluded that picture is an appropriate media to be used in writing class.

KeyWord: *Students' perception, Learning, Writing, Using Picture*

Language is the most important component in our communication. In daily, we absolutely use a language for communication. People build and create communication to other people, and interact

with each other. People use a language to deliver their opinion, some information about themselves, their life, and sometimes their feelings. In our country, English has become a foreign language. It means that

English officially is not our language, not all of our citizen are able to speak English. Therefore, it must be learned by the all citizens. It is learned at school as one of the main subjects at every level of education in our country; started from elementary level to highest level of education. Indonesian government has put it on specific place in our educational curriculum, many efforts have been made by Minister of Education to find out the best curriculum, which is suitably applied to Indonesian learners. There are four skill must be mastered by the students and writing is one of them. Writing as well is one of the most essential skills that an individual needs to acquire. Writing is an important part of language teaching as it also functions as an essential tool for learning in which students improve their knowledge of the language elements in real use (Taselin, 2010). To get students' ability in writing and interest in learning English, teachers should be selective in choosing the media that is

making relation between object and language. Picture like drawings, photographs, posters, slides, cartoons, magazines advertisements, diagrams, graphs, tables, charts, and maps, can be valuable resource for teaching writing (Raimes, 1938).

The researcher want to know about students' perception toward their writing learning activity using picture as media. Students' perceptions are important for the teacher in evaluating their learning and teaching activity.

This research mainly focuses on investigating what are student's perception toward their learning activity using picture in writing class. Specifically in composing good sentences, simple, compound and complex sentences. Using pictures as media on writing activities in writing class are able to lead various students' perceptions, either they like or dislike writing, and they could get idea by seeing the pictures.

Definition of Writing

Writing is a way to communicate through written or textual media, using a set of sign and symbols, pattern of word they deliver an information or idea. (Ghaith, 2002) stated that writing is a complex process that allows students explore their thoughts, ideas, and make it conspicuous and definitely clear. According to Spratt, Pulverness, and William (2005), writing is a productive skill. It means that students not only receive an information or language but they need to produce their own language and it requires an extra concentration and effort. Writing is a visible skill. That people give attention to the final product of writing. It can be directly assessed and revised by the lecture when students shown their language. Writing is like a skill that can depict to sports and arts. Once learners practice it more, the faster they can master it.

Importance of Writing

As well known, writing is very crucial for us. Communication does not happen only in spoken form, but also in written. Many people prefer to use written form to communicate with each other. Writing is very important for us. Many aspects of our life need writing skill as a part of requirements (Yeni and Nanik, 2016). In economic sector, writing is indispensable for everyone to gain their career. People looking for a job by writing an application, listing own biographical data, education, and some skills to attract the intended company. Then, on their job they need writing skill in various matters relating to administration and management purpose. Expand the relations and connections with others to gain their business. Through writing, people are able to improve their own finances by writing some short stories, poetry, even a song lyric that they can sell or upload on their personal blog.

Definition of Picture

In many places we often visited, we certainly found a picture. The image is a form of art. The image we created, people able to capture the message that the artist want to convey. Pictures are graphic media that can be used to convey an information well. Asnawir (2002) argued, picture is a visual media that produced from photograph. It is everything that formed visually into two dimensions as the outflow of various think. In educational purpose, pictures are used as a tool for teachers to be implemented the learning process. Teachers use pictures as media to help them to explain their knowledge to their students. Increasing the attractiveness of student is one of the functions of the picture, as stated (Kellner, 2019) pictures are able to help students overcome their reluctance. Besides, pictures are able to take students' attention effectively. So, students receive the materials very well then they understood.

The pictures are one media that is often used by teachers. In various subjects, pictures are highly effective. Furthermore, pictures are easy to find, we can find pictures wherever we are, or even we can draw the pictures by ourselves. Thus often pictures are used as teachers' primary media in teaching process.

Picture are used as teachers' primary media in teaching process. For example: poster, cartoon, diagram, and photograph.

The Advantage of Using Picture

Pictures are acceptable media for teaching activity. Almost all people prefer to look at picture because pictures are highly affect everyone. Pictures are able to stimulate students to catch the information well. There are four benefits of using pictures as media. First, picture are easy to find and it was no cost to much money. We can find and use picture we found on magazines, newspapers, or pictures that we captured by ourselves for our media in teaching. Second, picture are suitable to many objects. It means that

pictures are flexible, it can be used for many purpose and it is easy to use. Third, using picture is good activity for both teachers and students. Teachers used it to develop their learning behaviour, and using pictures are able to arouse students' attention then students got the material well and enjoyably. Fourth, the picture has multiplicity, it used by individuals students on bulletin board opaqueness, projector, on flannel boards (Klassek, 1995).

Students' Perception

Students' perception is a process of students that involves their five senses to assess, defining and responding to information obtained from an action that has been experienced. Every learners must have different perception of an action. In this case, every student who attend to writing class using pictures as media on their learning activity will have different

perception because each individual has different knowledge and experience.

Perception on Writing Skill

Human has an ability to process an obtained information from what their senses received then they have own interpretation about it. They make an interpretation about an experience, assesment, and other activities they did. There are four important skills on language learning, and writing is one of lifelong important asset. McLeod and Miraglia (2011) stated that they seem to agree that writing is very important in the learning process. Thus every student is required to master writing skills. Each student has their own perceptions regarding writing skills. With the variousity of perceptions were not a problem in the learning process. Flower and Hayes (1981) urge that during the writing process, the students has concurrently to recapture facts from long-term memory, and make an

effective use of language and thinking abilities.

METHOD

This research is descriptive qualitative. According to Donald Ary (2010) the qualitative researcher deals with data in the form of word or picture rather than number and statistics. Qualitative research is also intended as type of research that the findings is not obtained through procedure of statistic or quantitative (Syamsudin and Damaianti, 2007). It means that the results of the research are presented using words and sentences more than using numbers in statistical form.

The data of this research was obtained from the responses of questionnaire and interview which was taken by 33 second

semester students of Universitas Muhammadiyah Jember in guided writing class. The list questionnaire consisted 25 likert-scaled statements and interview section consisted about 8 question about the students' perception on their writing class activity using picture as media.

DISCUSSION

There are two major point about students' perception towards their learning activity using picture.

1. Pictures Help Students in Their Vocabulary and Brainstorming Ideas to Help Them in Writing or Composing Sentences.

Most of them perceived that learning writing skill using picture were really helpfull in helping students with their vocabulary. Figure (1) below shows the result of students questionnaire.

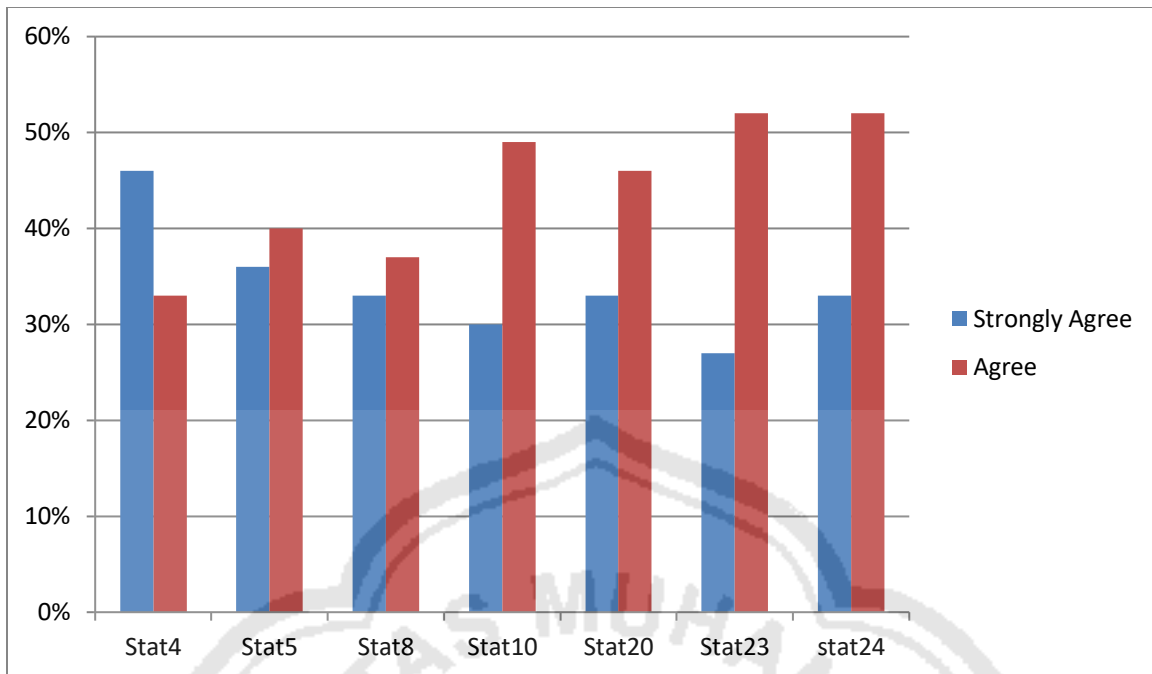


Figure 1. Questionnaire Response (Pictures Help Students Vocabulary)

From figure (1), the result of the interviews, the respondents also responded accordingly to the result of the questionnaire. Below are some response from the students interview result:

"I think it's really great. Because I can imagine things through the picture. It's actually really help me and I can imagine a lot of things using just 1 picture." R1.

"By looking at the photo we know what you have to do in accordance with the

instructions, and writing ideas appear faster." R3

"It makes it easy for me to learn to practice writing a sentence. It helps my mind to come up with an idea." R6.

"I am better able to imagine and capture everything that I want to convey in writing. I can imagine what happened and write it into a sentence." R22.

"Visual is easier to read and it stimulates various imagination." R31.

"We can write what we see. Then we don't have to imagine what we want to write."

R19.

Based on their response, they perceived that pictures help their

vocabulary. Other than that, picture also help them in gaining ideas they are going to write. Figure (2) below is the result of students questionnaire.

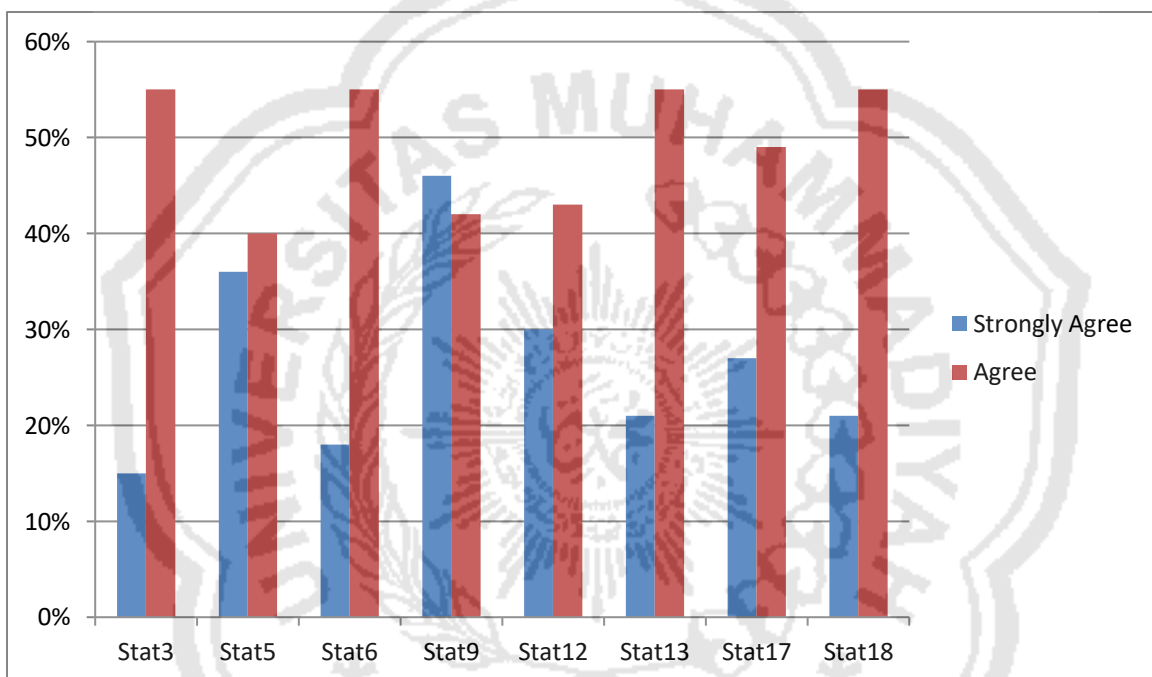


Figure 2. Questionnaire Response (Pictures Help Students Brainstorming Ideas)

From figure (2), the result of questionnaire, students also give positive respond to the questionanaire. Below are some response of students interview:

"It makes it easy for me to learn to practice writing a sentence. It helps my mind to come up with an idea." R6.

"Some images are provided more material, subject, object and more details about time and condition. Then we don't need to

imagine the scene to compose a sentences, it is really helpful to work faster for us.” R8.

“It makes us think of more ideas for making sentences. More ideas will come out.” R18.

“Composing sentences with pictures makes it easier or know what we are going to write. So I can write better and more interesting sentences.” R20.

According to result above most of students (>50%) each statement, were perceived that the pictures help them work with their vocabulary and it lead various ideas to write on their paper. They urged that pictures were helpfull on their writing skill learning activity and using picture as media on their learning was very effective. It could help them on finding idea, choosing words they used to write. less then 15 students (<45%) still were not really agree, because sometimes they found to much idea on their mind. So they would confused which idea they going to write. But it was more

effective than the lecture only used thousand of word to teach them. The results of this research were equals to the theory mentioned on chapter 2, Asnawir (2002) mentioned the advantages of using pictures are that they are more concrete to improve the students' feeling. Based on researcher own experience, used thousand of word on writing learning activity could make the students got bored and they were not give their attention to the subject taught. So then, this action was guided students very well to compose sentences since the simplest to the complex ones.

2. Pictures was An Appropriate Media for Learning and Teaching Writing Skill

Picture as media on learning activity especially learning writing skill on class was one of effective media to help students work with their leaning process. Figure (3) below, show students questionnaire response.

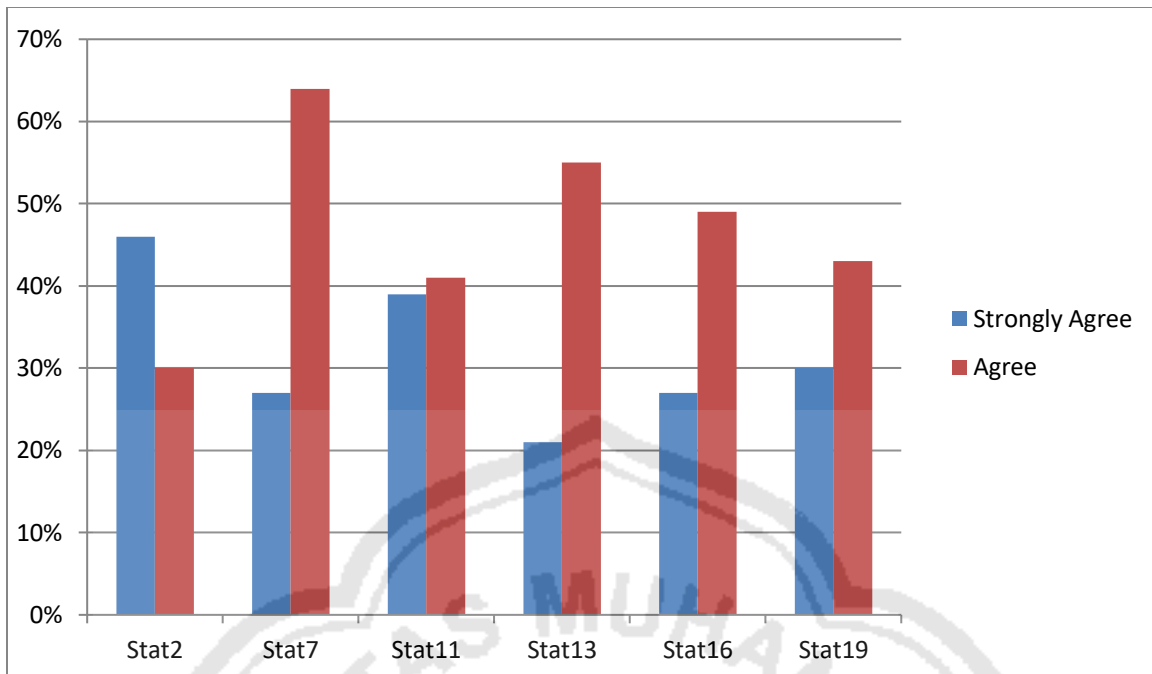


Figure 3. Questionnaire Response (Picture was An Appropriate Media)

From figure (3), the result of the interviews, the respondents also responded accordingly to the result of the questionnaire. Below are some response from the students interview result:

"I think it's fun, because it can provoke our thinking." R3.

"I think it's very helpful. I have imagination by watching the picture." R7.

"I think it's easier, because by using picture we can imagine even more broadly." R10.

"It's very interesting and fun. And that can make us imagine and think to make sentences." R11.

Based on the result above, picture were acceptable media for teaching activity. most of the students responded strongly agree and agree to the statements; they were more than 18 students (>50%) from 33 students. These results were supported by their answer on interview section. In addition, the students also agreed that pictures were effective media to be used in

their class. They stated that using picture was more fun, and interesting. Pictures could take more interest and focus of the students on the subject they learned. As Kellner (2019) implied that pictures were able to help students overcome their reluctance. Besides, pictures are able to take students' attention effectively. So, students received the materials very well. Other than that, the students urged that using pictures were better than the lecture only gave much of instructions. Pictures could overcome students' imagination of the sentences they would write. In addition, These results of the research justified by the guided writing lecture. pictures as media could help the lower to medium achiever students to deal their problem on vocabulary mastery.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research finding, it can be concluded that most of the students perceived that using picture on their writing learning activity could help them in their vocabulary and gaining idea. They also perceived that picture is an appropriate media to be used in writing class.

Meanwhile, few of them were doubt about this strategy. Sometimes, students could not manage abundant idea came on their mind after seeing the pictures. Students tended to use pictures for their writing learning activity than thousand of word media.



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