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Ability to Write Argumentative Paragraphs of Class X Multimedia 1

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Article Info

ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study: The purpose of the study was to describe the ability to write argumentative paragraphs, class X Multimedia 1 students of SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in the 2016/2017 academic year by applying conditions such as, (1) aspects of paragraph criteria which include introduction, body of argument, and conclusions, (2) paragraph aspects such as unity, coherence and development, (3) linguistic aspects which include grammar, word choice, and punctuation.

Methodology: This research uses a descriptive-quantitative method. The instrument used is the argumentative paragraph writing test. The subjects of this study were 24 students in class X Multimedia 1 at SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi. The research instrument was in the form of an argumentative paragraph writing test.

Main Findings: The results showed that in general the ability to write argumentative paragraphs of class X Multimedia 1 SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi was quite capable. The details are (1) the ability to apply argumentation criteria which include introduction, body of argument, and conclusions with a value of 4.3 (able), (2) the ability to apply the requirements of a good paragraph includes unity, coherence, and development with a value of 3.7 (quite capable) and (3) the ability to apply linguistic requirements which include grammar, word choice, and spelling and punctuation with a score of 3.6 (quite capable).

Novelty/Originality of this study: Based on this conclusion, it is suggested to Indonesian language teachers at SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi to improve learning to write argumentative paragraphs. Especially the ability to apply criteria such as, (1) aspects of argumentation paragraphs including introduction, body of arguments and conclusions, (2) aspects of good paragraphs include unity, coherence and development, (3) linguistic aspects which include grammar, choice of words, spelling and marks read.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Writing is a language skill that is used to communicate indirectly, not face to face with other people [1]. The purpose of writing varies depending on the type of writing. In general, the purpose of writing can be categorized as (1) informing or explaining, (2) convincing or urging, (3) telling something, (4) influencing the reader, (5) describing something [1]. Writing is very important for education because it makes it easier for students to think, it can also help someone to think critically and can make it easier to feel and enjoy

relationships, deepen responsiveness, solve problems encountered. In learning to write, not all students have abilities in the field of writing because good writing is obtained through continuous practice, and someone who has abilities in the field of writing must have several provisions, namely having adequate vocabulary, understanding and mastering spelling, knowing and mastering the use of sentences. , clauses, and phrases properly [2].

The ability to write is a person's skill in expressing his thoughts, feelings and ideas to other people so that they can influence the reader to enter into the information presented by a writer, due to the awesomeness of the author's mindset in the form of language symbols (letters) which are poured into written media. Writing skills are also one aspect of productive competence that must be owned and mastered by every student [3]. Based on this statement it is very important for students to have writing skills when participating in Indonesian language learning at school, considering that language is the main communication tool for conveying their thoughts, feelings and ideas to others, especially through writing [4], [5]. Writing is also an indirect means of conveying messages in everyday life, writing is needed in communication activities between one person and another, for example writing short messages, writing memos, writing diaries and writing paragraphs [6], [7] .

In connection with learning Indonesian at SMK, especially writing argumentative paragraphs as one of the written communications which has a very important role. Through writing, students can express ideas, ideas, and opinions that are accompanied by evidence and facts (actually happened) or are called arguments. . The importance of writing arguments for students, in learning Indonesian at Vocational High Schools, is provided with the ability to write argumentative paragraphs [8]. In the class X semester II SMK Indonesian curriculum, basic competencies related to writing argumentative paragraphs are included. The basic competence in question is "writing ideas to support an opinion in the form of argumentation paragraphs" [9]. Writing that convinces or persuades the reader about the truth of the author's opinion is an argumentative paragraph.

Judging from the learning objectives, writing argumentative paragraphs is one of the skills that must be learned by SMK students. However, when learning to write, many students are not interested in writing lessons, some even tend to be lazy. Students are faced with difficulties in determining what topic they are writing about, developing topic sentences, and how to develop topics with effective sentences. Students' difficulties in applying the elements of this paragraph ultimately make students experience difficulties in writing argumentative paragraphs.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting research on writing argumentative paragraphs. This activity is expected to be able to provide answers about the level of students' abilities in developing paragraphs in an argumentative writing so that it can be used as a basis for the next step in terms of improving students' ability to develop any paragraphs, especially in writing argumentative paragraphs.

2.   RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in this research is a quantitative descriptive method. In accordance with the formulation of the problem, what will be described in this study is the ability of class X Multimedia 1 students of SMK N 9 Muaro Jambi in writing argumentative paragraphs. This ability will be described by presenting assessment criteria based on the assessment indicators to be achieved in learning to write argumentative paragraphs [10], [11].

The subjects in this study were all 24 students of XMultimedia 1 class at SMK N 9 Muaro Jambi. The research instrument used in this study was a performance test, namely a test of students' ability to write argumentative paragraphs by applying the principles of argumentative paragraph composition, namely aspects of argumentation paragraphs (introduction, body of argument, and conclusion) [12].

Data analysis was carried out by calculating the percentage of students' ability to write argumentative paragraphs by taking into account argumentative criteria such as: introduction, body, and conclusions in writing argumentative paragraphs. Using assessment guidelines to measure students' abilities. The assessment guidelines are carried out with benchmark reference assessments. Individual assessment scores are determined by three assessment criteria, namely: covering the introduction, body, and conclusions in writing argumentative paragraphs. It was divided in two because the assessment was taken by two assessors, namely the researcher himself (P1) and the Indonesian teacher (P2), using the Djiwandono formula as follows:

Total $= \frac{p1+p2}{2}$

Information:
Sum = Sum of average values
P1 = Appraiser 1
P2 = Appraiser 2

If the calculation of the percentage results has found results, then the researcher matches the quality criteria of the ability to obtain conclusions, it can be seen, the ability to write argumentative paragraphs of class X Multimedia 1 SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi with an assessment conversion table or percentage interval table as follows:

Table 1. Criteria for Assessment of Ability to Write Paragraphs of Arguments for Class X Multimedia Students of SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi

Interval	Information
5	Very capable
4 – 4,9	Capable
3 – 3,9	Quite capable
1 – 2,9	Less fortunate

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

On the ability to write argumentative paragraphs on argumentation criteria, class X Multimedia 1 students at SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi are in the capable category. This is proven by obtaining an average value from assessors 1 and 2 of 4.3. This value, in the value conversion table, is in the interval 4-4.9 of the value interval, capable of quality. Ability based on aspects of the characteristics of the argumentation will be presented in the following table

Table 2. Results of the Assessment of Ability to Write Argumentative Paragraphs from the Argumentation Criteria

No	Student's name	Score						Average value
		P1			P2			
		P	BT	S	P	BT	S	
1	Sopiyan S.	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
2	Ratna Sari	2	2	1	2	2	1	2,5
3	Lisa Anggraini	3	2	1	3	2	1	3
4	Angga Prima	3	3	1	3	3	1	3,5
5	Elda Novianti	5	3	2	5	3	2	5
6	Yuli	3	2	1	3	2	1	3
7	Fanny Selvia	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
8	Devi Krisanti	3	2	1	3	2	1	3
9	Gabria Dion	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
10	Kartika Melinia	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
11	Tri Hidayah	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
12	Indah Febriany	4	3	2	4	3	2	4,5
13	Yesi Anggraini	4	3	2	4	3	2	4,5
14	Septi Mayasyah	4	3	2	4	3	2	4,5
15	Ardiansyah	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
16	Sri Sutiya Arni	5	3	2	5	3	2	5
17	George Soros	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
18	Andika Antonio	4	3	2	4	3	2	4,5
19	M. Ali Akbar	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
20	Novika Sari	5	3	2	5	3	2	5
21	Amartia Monatha	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
22	Andiman Purba	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
23	Redho Nevo Hakim	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
24	Agri Prastio S.	3	4	3	3	4	3	5

After conducting research and collecting research results on the ability to write argumentative paragraphs based on aspects of good paragraph requirements, class X Multimedia 1 students of SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in the 2016/2017 academic year can be seen from the results of the ability to write argumentative paragraphs from the instruments that have been worked on. Then the researcher calculated the percentage of students' ability to write argumentative paragraphs based on paragraph requirements using the percentage formula as follows:

TabeTable 3. Results of Assessment of Students' Ability to Write Argumentative Paragraphs from the Requirements for Good Paragraphs.

| No | Student's name | Score | | | | | | Average value |
| | | P1 | | | P2 | | | |
		KS	KH	P	KS	KH	P	
1	Sopiyan S.	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
2	Ratna Sari	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,5
3	Lisa Anggraini	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
4	Angga Prima	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
5	Elda Novianti	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
6	Yuli	2	2	1	2	2	1	2,5
7	Fanny Selvia	3	3	2	3	3	2	4
8	Devi Krisanti	2	2	1	2	2	1	2,5
9	Gabria Dion	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
10	Kartika Melinia	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
11	Tri Hidayah	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
12	Indah Febriany	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
13	Yesi Anggraini	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
14	Septi Mayasyah	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
15	Ardiansyah	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
16	Sri Sutiya Arni	3	3	2	3	3	2	4
17	George Soros	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
18	Andika Antonio	3	3	2	3	3	2	4
19	M. Ali Akbar	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
20	Novika Sari	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
21	Amartia Monatha	3	4	3	3	4	3	5
22	Andiman Purba	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
23	Redho Nevo Hakim	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
24	Agri Prastio S.	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
	Amount							90
	Average value							3,75

After conducting research and collecting the results of the assessment of the ability to write argumentative paragraphs from the linguistic aspects of class X Multimedia 1 SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in the 2016/2017 academic year, it can be seen from the results of the ability to write argumentative paragraphs from the instruments that have been worked on. Then the researcher calculated the percentage of students' ability to write argumentative paragraphs based on linguistic aspects using the percentage formula according to Ali (1993:86) as follows:

Table 4. Results of the Assessment of Ability to Write Paragraphs of Arguments from Language Requirements

| No | Student's name | Score | | | | | | Average value |
| | | P1 | | | P2 | | | |
		TB	PK	ET	TB	PK	ET	
1	Sopiyan S.	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
2	Ratna Sari	1	1	1	1	1	1	1,5
3	Lisa Anggraini	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
4	Angga Prima	2	1	2	2	1	2	2,5
5	Elda Novianti	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
6	Yuli	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
7	Fanny Selvia	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
8	Devi Krisanti	2	2	1	2	2	1	2,5
9	Gabria Dion	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
10	Kartika Melinia	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
11	Tri Hidayah	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
12	Indah Febriany	3	2	2	3	2	2	3,5
13	Yesi Anggraini	2	3	2	2	3	2	3,5
14	Septi Mayasyah	4	3	3	4	3	3	5

15	Ardiansyah	3	3	4	3	3	4	5
16	Sri Sutiya Arni	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
17	George Soros	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
18	Andika Antonio	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
19	M. Ali Akbar	3	2	3	3	2	3	4
20	Novika Sari	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
21	Amartia Monatha	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
22	Andiman Purba	3	3	3	3	3	3	4,5
23	Redho Nevo Hakim	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
24	Agri Prastio S.	4	3	3	4	3	3	5
	Amount							88,5
	Average value							3,68

The scores for all elements of the assessment are as follows:

Table 5. Total Score of Ability to Write Argumentation Paragraphs

No	Elements of Assessment	Skor		Persentase %	Information
		B	N		
1	Argument criteria	104	5	4,3	Capable
2	paragraph requirements	90	5	3,7	Capable Enough
3	Good	88,5	5	3,6	Capable Enough
	Amount			11,6	
	Average			3,8	Capable Enough

Based on table 5, it can be seen that the percentage of each element of the assessment that has been carried out. score of 4.3, (2) The ability of class X Multimedia 1 students of SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in writing argumentative paragraphs from the aspect of good paragraph requirements belongs to the quite capable category with a value category of 3.7, and (3) Ability of class X SMK students Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in writing argumentation paragraphs from the linguistic aspect belongs to the quite capable category with a value category of 3.6.

Based on the results of the study, it can be seen that the ability to write argumentative paragraphs of class X Multimedia 1 SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi is quite capable. This can be seen from the results of data processing ability to write argumentative paragraphs. The determinants of the ability to write argumentation paragraphs consist of (1) application of the criteria for argumentation paragraphs and (2) paragraph requirements which include paragraph characteristics, good paragraph requirements, and language.

From the results of data processing, it can be seen that the ability to write argumentative paragraphs of class X Multimedia 1 SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi is quite capable. This is proven by obtaining an average score of 1st and 2nd appraisers of 4.3. These values in the value conversion table are in the interval 4-4.9. The value interval according to the value conversion table, the value is of a capable quality, which consists of 10 argumentative criteria aspects with an average value of 3.8 of a fairly capable quality. Weaknesses in the argumentation paragraphs written by students are seen in the argumentative criteria, which are seen in the body of the argument which includes the argumentation criteria.

Paragraph requirements include paragraph characteristics, good paragraph requirements, and language with an average value of 3.8, the quality is quite capable. Weaknesses in the argumentative paragraphs written by students can be seen from the characteristics of the paragraphs, which are seen in sentences that contain subordinate ideas, some of which together contain the main idea of the paragraph. The terms of a good paragraph are seen in inadequate supporting sentences.

Determining the value that can be given to students who are able to write argumentation paragraphs fulfills both aspects of writing argumentation paragraphs, namely: argumentative criteria according to expert opinion, namely Semi and Muhamad Yunus, including (1) Introduction (2) Body of Argument, which contains four characteristics of argumentation aimed at convincing readers, trying to prove the truth of an opinion or statement, trying to change the opinion or views of readers, and presenting facts as evidence.

In data processing, it was found that there were many student paragraphs who were capable from the spelling aspect, but did not meet the criteria needed in this study, namely the ability to write arguments in the form of argumentation criteria and good paragraph requirements. Therefore, the researcher's assessment of the data is only based on argumentation criteria and good paragraph requirements.

4.   CONCLUSION

Ability to Write Argumentative Paragraphs of Class X Multimedia 1 Students of SMK Negeri 9 Muaro Jambi in the 2016/2017 Academic Year by applying the following requirements: a). The argumentation criteria (introduction, body of argument, and conclusion) are in the capable category with a value of 4.3, b). Good paragraphs (unity, coherence and development) are categorized as capable enough with a value of 3.7, c). Linguistics (Grammar, word choice and spelling and punctuation) is quite capable with a value of 3.6.

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