Implementing POWER Strategy Combined with The Animated Film to Improve The Writing Ability in Narrative Text for Junior High School

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Abstract: This study aimed to improve students’ narrative writing by implementing POWER strategy combined with the animated film at class VIII of SMP. It was CAR design conducted in 2 cycles. The findings showed an improvement in writing ability in which 29 students achieved the minimum passing grade and the rest 6 students were in fair level of writing, and the result of teaching and learning process showed that 82.5% respond positively. The teachers are suggested to use this strategy as an alternative way to improve the writing ability and the media that is used should be appropriate with students’ level.

Key Words: POWER strategy, animated film, writing narrative

One of the important basic language skills in English subject is writing. Writing is used to express ideas through written form. Besides that, writing plays in the last sequence after the other language skills, but it should not be underestimated (Seidhofer, 2005). As one of the language skills, writing has always occupied a place in most English language courses. Based on 2006 curriculum for Junior High School (SMP), students are supposed to master four English skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Among the four language skills, writing is usually considered as the most difficult to master (Widiati & Cahyono, 2016). In writing skill, they are expected to be able to write several types of texts such as descriptive, procedure, recount, report and also narrative. Writing lesson has been seen as a boring, tiring, and difficult subject by the students. Most of the students have difficulties to follow the writing stages in their writing class. Based on the researcher’s experience as an English teacher in SMPS Kartika Kendari, writing seemed to be a problem too. To know the ability of the students in writing narrative text, the researcher, and his colleague did preliminary study collaboratively. The preliminary study of this research was conducted through writing test, giving questionnaire and interviewing the teacher.

The writing test revealed that among 35 students in class VIIIIB of SMPS Kartika Kendari, only 5 students got a score above 70 which means that only 14.28% passed the minimum passing grade (MPG), 8 students (22.85%) were classified at a fair level, while 17 students (48.57%) were classified at a poor level. Meanwhile, the rest, 5 students (14.28%) were categorized at very poor level. The score of the writing test above indicated that there were several problems dealing with the students’ writing abilities such as a problem in using grammar, organization of idea,
content, vocabulary and also a mechanic. From the result of questionnaires, the writer found several problems related to writing ability. There were 15 students (42.85%) who did not like writing activity, 33 students (94.28%) thought that narrative writing was difficult, 30 students (85.71%) did not feel confident with their narrative writing that they wrote. Moreover, 28 students (80%) found it difficult to get and generate ideas in writing activity. The questionnaire also showed that 25 students (71.42%) had difficulties in developing ideas in their writing, 26 students (74.28%) had difficulties in dealing with the use of language features. Furthermore, 28 students (80%) faced difficulties in dealing with the use of vocabulary. Meanwhile, 32 students (91.42%) faced problems of using correct spelling, punctuation, capitalization in writing narrative text. From the result of the questionnaire, it can be concluded that most of the students do not like writing activities and they had difficulties to write in English. Based on the result of the interview with the teacher who taught there, she just gave tasks and students were asked to do the tasks such as the writing activities that just focused on rearranging words to be good sentences and rearranging sentences to become a good paragraph. It could not give stimulation towards students’ thinking skill on how to organize ideas, how to put these ideas in their writing draft and its final product. In short, the strategy still did not match with the students’ needs in overcoming the problem of writing.

Based on the facts stated above, the teacher needed variations in teaching writing. Thus, the researcher proposed a writing strategy namely POWER which stands for Prepare, Organize, Write, Edit, and Rewrite. Concerning the use of POWER strategy, it is necessary to be applied in teaching writing because it has some strengths. First, it helps the students to keep details in sequential order when they write something. According to Smith (2003, p. 20), before students start to write something, there must be a preparation. A good preparation will help the student to develop what they want to write in their draft of narrative such as telling who, what, when, where and why. Second, it can help the writer to organize the ideas during the process of writing because POWER strategy has some stages that make the writer easy to follow the steps in writing a text. Third, it can improve the writing quality. It means that the writer has more time to examine or recheck his/her piece of writing in terms of the use of correct grammar, the choice of word, punctuation, mechanic, etc. To monitor these aspects, it can be done by the writer themselves or from his/her peer (Harris, et al, 2006). To enable students to do self-monitoring and check their peers’ work, the researcher will use the rubric as guidelines for them. The implementation of POWER strategy in teaching writing has been conducted by some researchers e.g. Airasian, 2000; Christopher, 2003, and Daniel, 2013. Those studies revealed that POWER Strategy could improve the writing ability in some aspects such as the organization of idea, content and also grammar.

Animated film is a medium that can be used to increase students’ motivation in learning writing. The animated film is expected to be effective media for teaching narrative writing. There are some strengths of using animated film in teaching and learning process. Kenna, (2017); and Mayer & Moreno, (2002) stated that with the use of animated videos or films in prewriting activity, students can explore the structural devices of the story (plotlines, character development, setting, and theme). It can be used as invaluable sources that could support children with contextualization in the language classroom (Brewster et al., 2002). Moreover, using animated film can be an entertaining and motivating tool also for learners with different skill level. Feger & Thomas (2011) proposed that animated films constitute a unique teaching resource because the visualization creates, strong and lasting imagines concepts. So, the animated film is a media in teaching which also provides the learners with real-life language input.

This study applied POWER strategy combined with animated film and focused on students’ narrative writing. Based on the statement above, it is hoped that POWER strategy combined with animated film can be helpful for teacher and students to reduce the students’ problem in writing especially narrative text. Therefore, the researcher is interested in implementing POWER strategy combined with animated film to improve students’ narrative writing ability in second-year grade of SMPS Kartika Kendari.

**METHOD**

The design of this study was Classroom Action Research (CAR). It was a research design used to improve the quality of teachers’ in instruction as well as students’ achievement in learning in the classroom. In this study, the researcher as the teacher in SMPS Kartika Kendari collaborated with his colleague to conduct Classroom Action Research that focused the implementation of POWER strategy combined with ani-
mated film to solve the problems. By this research, the researcher applied POWER strategy combined with animated film to solve the students’ problem dealing their narrative writing ability and to improve their classroom activities. The researcher himself carried out this study in the teaching process because he knew every single step in this strategy and was curious to see how this strategy could solve the students’ problems. Meanwhile, the researcher asked an English teacher of SMPS Kartika Kendari as a collaborator so that they could learn together. The researcher acted as a teacher in the classroom while the collaborator helped the researcher to guide the students when they found difficulties in their activities. The collaborator also helped the researcher in observing the students’ activities by using observation checklist and field note to gain data related to the criteria of success that had been set. The design of this research follows a model of CAR proposed by Kemmis & Mc. Taggart (1988, p. 14) in Latief (2014, p. 144) that consisted of four steps: (1) planning, (2) implementing, (3) observing, and (4) reflecting. These four stages are preceded by the preliminary study.

The study consisted of two cycles. The targeted criteria of success had not all been achieved in the first cycle, so the researcher revised the planning for the next cycle The targeted criteria was achieved in the second cycle.

This research was carried out in Class VIIIB of SMPS Kartika Kendari in which this class has 35 students consisting of 10 male students and 25 female students. The implementation of POWER strategy combined with animated film was conducted in five meetings in the first cycle and three meetings in the second cycle. Furthermore, to assess the students’ writing product, the researcher adopted the scoring rubric proposed by Jacob et al (1981). There were five components described in the analytical scoring rubric of writing: content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanics.

In addition, the data were taken from the reflection about teaching and learning process conducted in the classroom. Firstly, the data described the students’ attitude and perception toward the implementation of the teaching of narrative writing using POWER strategy combined with animated film. Secondly, the data described how the teacher conducted the teaching steps as planned in the lesson plans. To analyze whether the teaching process ran as planned, the researcher used the criteria proposed by Arikunto (2013).

There were five instruments used in this research. They were writing test, writing rubric, observation checklist, field notes, and questionnaire. The students’ writing test was used to find out the improvement and achievement of the students in their writing ability as the result of the implementation of the strategy. The observation checklist was used to collect the data about the activities both the students and the teacher in the classroom. There were two kinds of instrument used for observation in this research namely observation checklist for classroom atmosphere and observation checklist for teaching and learning process. Meanwhile, field note was used to write anything related to the teacher and students’ activities which are not stated in observation checklist. Furthermore, questionnaire was used to find out the students’ interest and opinion on the implementation of POWER strategy combined with animated film.

RESULTS

Students’ Writing Achievement in 1st Cycle

In the first cycle, the students were asked to write a topic based on the animated film which entitled “Sleeping Beauty” by using their own words. They were asked to write the topic with length of 100 words minimally. The researcher checked the students’ evaluation for the first cycle. The targeted criteria was achieved in the second cycle.

Table 1. Data Of Students’ Evaluation Score In The First Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing Aspects</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>668.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>19.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the first cycle, the students were asked to write a topic based on the animated film which entitled “Sleeping Beauty” by using their own words. They were asked to write the topic with length of 100 words minimally. The researcher checked the students’ writing by using Jacob et al (1981) band score in term of content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanics. The students’ evaluation score in the first cycle could be seen in the Table 1.

The data showed that the result of students’ evaluation for the first cycle. Overall, the total score for content aspect was 668.5, got the mean score 19.10
which was categorized as fair, then the total score of the organization aspect was 512 and got the mean score 14.63 which was categorized as good. While for vocabulary aspect, the total score was 549 and got mean score 15.69 which was categorized as good, the total score for language use aspect was 589.5 and got mean score 16.84 which was categorized as fair and the total score for a mechanic aspect was 157 and got mean score 4.49 which was categorized as good. The total score of five aspects was 2476 which got the average mean 70.74 which was categorized fair. In addition to that, the minimum score was 50.5 and the maximum score was 88. Most of the students get fair for content, organization, and vocabulary, while in language aspects were still poor category. From the table above we could state that there were 23 students (65.71%) who passed the minimum score as the criteria of this study, while the rest there were 12 students (34.29%) who did not pass the criteria. Even though their writing ability had already improved from the preliminary study until evaluation session in the first cycle, the target of this research had not been achieved.

The Students’ Improvement In Five Aspects Of Writing In The First Cycle

After implementing POWER strategy combined with animated for group and individual in the first cycle, the students’ writing ability had improved in five aspects of writing namely content, organization, vocabulary, language use and mechanic. The improvement from the preliminary study until the first cycle could be seen in the Figure 1. The diagram showed that there was an improvement in the first cycle toward the students mean score. Before applying POWER strategy combined with animated film, the students mean score for content aspect was 14.88 which categorized very poor and after implementing POWER strategy combined with animated film, it increased into 19.10 which was categorized fair. For organization aspect, it increased from 12.88 which was categorized fair to 14.63 which was categorized well. For vocabulary aspect, it increased from 13.25 which were categorized fair to 15.69 which was categorized good. For language use aspect, it increased from 13.76 which was categorized fair to 16.84 which was categorized fair. Meanwhile, for mechanic aspect, it increased from 3.69 which categorized fair to 4.49 which categorized good. Based on the result of the students’ writing in the first cycle, it could be seen that the mean score increased from a preliminary study that achieved 58.47 and it was categorized poor to 70.74 that was categorized as fair level. However, the percentage of the students who passed the criteria of success was 65.71%. Since the target of the research that 75% should pass the criteria of success was not achieved, the second cycle needed to be carried out.

Teaching And Learning Process In The First Cycle

Based on the result of observation checklist and field note, there were some activities which were not implemented well and made the activities did not run optimally as planned in the lesson plans. The result of the observation checklist for classroom atmosphere could be seen in the Table 2.

The table showed that in the first meeting the mean score of the activity was 19 with the percentage 47.50% of the whole activities that has been conducted in which was categorized fair, the mean score of the

### Table 2. The Result Of Observation Checklist In The First Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>47.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>52.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>57.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>55.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>109</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean</strong></td>
<td><strong>54.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fair</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Figure 1. The Improvement Of The Students’ Writing Ability In The First Cycle](image-url)
second meeting was 21 with the percentage 52.50% of the whole activities that has been conducted which belonged to fair category. For the third meeting, the mean score was 23 with the percentage 57.50% of the whole activities that has been conducted which belonged to fair category and for the fourth meeting the mean score was 22 with the percentage 55.00% of the whole activities which categorized fair. Mean while, for the fifth meeting, the mean score was 24 with the percentage 60.00% which categorized fair. Overall, those activities from the first meeting until fifth meeting the mean score were 109 with percentage 54.50% which categorized as a fair category. As stated in the criteria of the success of the research that the teacher and students’ participation should achieve at least 80%. In fact, the participation of the teacher and students in the first cycle just achieved 54.50%, so that the next cycle needed to be conducted.

**Students’ Writing Achievement In 2nd Cycle**

In the second cycle, there were 35 students who attended the class and followed the evaluation session. The students were asked to write a topic which entitled “Beauty and The Beast” by using their own words. The students’ writing achievement in this second cycle could be seen in the Table 3.

The data above showed the result of students’ evaluation for the second cycle. Overall, the total score was 771 and got the mean score 22.03 which was categorized as good, the total score of organization was 586 with the mean score 16.74 which was categorized as good, the total score of vocabulary was 609 with the mean score 17.40 which was categorized as good, the total score for language use was 672 and got mean score 19.20 which was categorized as good and for mechanic the total score was 169 with the mean score 4.83 which was categorized as good. The total score for the five aspects was 2807 and the mean score 80.20. This mean score was categorized as good writing ability. Then, the researcher concluded that the students’ writing ability at class VIII.B had good writing quality in terms of content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanic.

The result also showed that there were five students (14.28%) who had very good achievement, twenty-four students (68.57%) who had good to average achievement and the rest six students (17.15%) who belonged to fair category. In this cycle no one got score which had been categorized poor and very poor. From the table above we could also see that there were 29 students (82.85%) of the total students who passed the passing grade and the rest there were 6 students (17.15%) who did not pass the passing grade but they were in a fair level of writing ability. In this cycle, the criteria of success were achieved from the result of the evaluation. So, the research was ended.

**The Students’ Improvement In Five Aspects Of Writing In The Second Cycle**

After applying POWER strategy combined with animated film in teaching narrative writing for two cycles, the students’ writing ability had improved. Their ability to produce a good quality of writing in term of content, organization, vocabulary, language use and mechanic were increased. Such improvement from the first cycle until the second cycle shown in the Figure 2.

The Figure 2 showed that there was an improvement of the students’ mean score in each cycle. Before applying POWER strategies combined with animated film, the students mean score for content aspect was 14.88 which was categorized very poor. Then after the implementation of POWER strategy combined with animated film in the first cycle, it increased into 19.10 which was categorized fair. Therefore, the second cycle was conducted. Then, at the end of the cycle, the students’ mean score for content aspect increased become 22.03 which categorized good. Before applying POWER strategy combined with animated film student mean score for organization aspect was 12.88 which categorized fair. While after applying POWER strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing Aspects</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Vocabulary</th>
<th>Language Use</th>
<th>Mechanic</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>92.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>2807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>22.03</td>
<td>16.74</td>
<td>17.40</td>
<td>19.20</td>
<td>4.83</td>
<td>80.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Data Of Students’ Evaluation Score In The Second Cycle
combined with animated film in the first cycle, it increased into 14.63 which categorized good. At the end of the cycle, it increased become 16.74 which categorized good. Moreover, from vocabulary aspect, the mean score in the preliminary study was 13.25 which categorized fair.

After implementing POWER strategy combined with animated film, the mean score increased become 15.69 which categorized as good in the first cycle. In the second cycle, the mean score increased become 17.40 which also categorized good. In term of language aspect, before implementing POWER strategy combined with animated film the mean score was 13.76 which categorized fair. While after applying POWER strategy combined with animated film in the first cycle, it increased into 16.84 which categorized fair. At the end of the second cycle, it increased become 19.20 which categorized good. While in terms of mechanic the mean score in the preliminary study was 3.69 which categorized fair and it increased to become 4.49 in the first cycle and 4.83 in the second cycle which was categorized good.

Overall, the mean score of those five aspects in the preliminary was 58.47 that categorized poor while in the first cycle it increased into 70.74 that can be belonged to fair. Finally, in the second cycle the mean score increased into 80.20 that belonged to good category (Figure 3).

The Teaching And Learning Process In 2nd Cycle

Based on the result of observation checklist in the second cycle, it showed the improvement of teacher and students’ participation in teaching and learning process by using POWER strategy combined with animated film in the writing classroom activities, the result of observation checklist could be seen in the Table 4.

The table showed that in the first meeting the mean score of the activity was 31 or 77.50% of the activities in teaching and learning has been conducted as planned and it was categorized as good. The mean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Mean Score</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>77.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>82.50 (Fair)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2. Students’ Improvement In Five Aspects Of Writing In Second Cycle

Figure 3. Students’ Writing Ability Before And After The Treatment In Passing The Target Of The Research
score of the second meeting was 34 with the percentage 85% of the activities in teaching and learning has been conducted and it was categorized very good. Meanwhile, for the third meeting, the mean score was 34 with the percentage 85% of the activities in teaching and learning has been conducted and it was categorized very good. Overall, those activities from the first meeting until third meeting the mean score was 99 with percentage 82.50% of the activities in teaching and learning has been run well and it was categorized as a very good category. As stated in the criteria of the success of the research that the teacher and students’ participation should achieve at least 80% and the result of the second cycle had fulfilled the criteria of the research. Therefore, the cycle was ended.

**The Students’ Response Of The Implementation Of POWER Strategy Combined With The Animated Film**

Based on the finding that had been elaborated in the previous section, it is acknowledged that POWER strategy combined with animated is appropriate in improving the ability of the students in writing a narrative paragraph. It is also effective to help the teacher and students in teaching and learning writing. It is supported by the result of questionnaire were 24 (68.57%) out of 35 of the students strongly agreed and the rest 10 students (28.57%) agreed that they were happy with the stage of POWER strategy in teaching writing, 25 students (71.43%) strongly agreed and 10 students (28.57%) agreed that they liked the implementation of POWER strategy combined with animated film as media in learning English, 18 students (51.43%) strongly agreed and 17 students (48.57%) agreed that the stages of POWER strategy combined with animated film could help them in writing narrative text well, 13 students (37.14%) strongly agreed and 21 students (60%) agreed that peer correction could help them to improve the quality of their writing, 15 students (42.86%) strongly agreed and 20 students (57.14%) agreed that the guiding question given by the teacher could help them in understanding the topic that they were going to write. In addition to that, there were 10 students (28.57%) strongly agreed and 24 students (28.57%) agreed they showed their high motivation to write using POWER strategy combined with animated film and 16 students (45.71%) strongly agreed and 19 students (54.29%) agreed that after implementing POWER strategy combined with animated film they could improve their ability in writing especially narrative text.

**DISCUSSION**

**The Students’ Improvement in Writing Ability**

The implementation of POWER strategy combined with the animated film was successful in improving students’ narrative writing. It could be seen from the result of this study in which the score of the preliminary study was 58.57 improved 70.74 in the first cycle and 80.20 in the second cycle. This result also was supported by the result of the teaching and learning process and students’ response toward the implementation of the strategy. The data about teaching and learning process showed that in first cycle the teacher and students did 54.50% of whole teaching and learning activities that were planned. Meanwhile, the students’ response toward this strategy confirmed that they liked this POWER strategy combined with the animated film. The criteria of success was fulfilled in the second cycle.

In the second cycle, most of the problems above could also be minimized by the teacher by providing more time in teaching and learning process, giving more language inputs (vocabulary and grammar), providing feedback, checking the students’ understanding of their comprehensible input and also repeating the activities of the POWER strategy combined with the animated film which might increase the students’ motivation in the teaching and learning process. POWER strategy could also affect the motivation and interest of students to write. The students’ motivation and interest became two of the major effect that could influence the students’ ability in writing a narrative paragraph. The application of POWER strategy showed that the students’ motivation increased because the teacher prepared an engaging writing and enjoyable atmosphere when the process was going on. Harmer (2004, p. 62) argues that “An engaging writing task is one that involves students not just intellectually but emotionally as well; it amuses them, intrigues them or makes them feel good”.

The result of the students’ improvement through the implementation of POWER strategy is not different from the findings of some studies conducted by Fitria (2015); Daniel (2013), and Christopher (2003).
(2015) implemented POWER strategy in writing ability of descriptive text to the tenth-grade students of SMA NU Al Ma’ruf Kudus in Academic Year 2014/2015. Her findings showed that this strategy was effective because the students could make descriptive text. They were active and enjoyable during the activities in teaching learning process. Daniel (2013) in his study used POWER strategy in teaching writing. The result showed that this strategy could improve the students’ writing ability. Moreover, Christopher (2003) employed POWER strategy with quasi-experiment design in his study. The findings showed that there was an improvement in the students’ writing ability after applying this strategy in some aspects such as content, organization, and grammar. Those studies had revealed that the POWER strategy can help students to solve the problem in their writing and increase the students’ writing quality and motivation.

There are some considerations why the implementation of POWER strategy could improve the students’ ability in writing the narrative. Firstly, the teacher helped students to be confident in writing, so they feel comfortable as writers. Secondly, the teacher gave necessary information to complete the task; the students need to understand clearly what the teacher wants them to do. Thirdly, the teacher prepared some suggestions when students got stuck. Those activities were done by the teacher automatically and could make the students more motivated to write their composition.

There are several strong possible explanations for the improvement found on the students’ writing performance in the first and second cycle. In general, the improvement is probably caused by the animated films that was presented in the preparing stage of POWER strategy during the treatment session. The teacher provided this media as supplementary to support the implementation of POWER strategy. Moss (2010) states that the animation film in writing process can be used to organize or brainstorm the ideas session well. Similar to this, Lavery (2008) argues that film and video are effective ways in motivating and helping students to understand language. It can be said that animated film applied in learning English made a new atmosphere for students during teaching and learning process. By applying animated film in teaching writing, it could give the students opportunity to generate and explore their ideas naturally. Therefore, they could write narrative paragraph well based on the guidelines given. It also gave positive significant effect on the students writing ability.

The Implementation of POWER Strategy Combined with the Animated Film

The implementation of POWER strategy combined with the animated film was conducted in two cycles. The first cycle consisted of six meetings and the second cycle consisted of four meetings. In this implementation, POWER strategy was the main focus which consisted of five stages; prepare, organize, edit, and rewrite. The animated film was used as media to support the implementation of this strategy.

Prepare stage is one of the plans that should be done by the writers before they start to write something. To begin to write is apparently most of the students’ problem. It is the matter of what to write and how to write it. One of the solutions to this problem is that the students should be guided in doing some activities which are usually called prewriting activities before coming to the actual writing. Preparing is an activity of prewriting that aims at helping the students to produce the ideas on a certain topic in the beginning of the writing process. According to Christenson (2002) prewriting involves everything the writer does before the beginning actual task of writing, including checking background knowledge, generating ideas and making plans for approaching the writing task. Similar to this, Wang (2014) states that in pre-writing the writers can brainstorm about the given topic which allows them to share ideas, learn from each other, and produce new ideas. Karim, et al (2016) affirm that through brainstorming activities, students can be guided to overcome some problems that they face in writing task.

In preparing stage of this study, the teacher provides some words list or vocabulary, guiding questions and grammar exercise which were related to the content of the animated story. To support the students in making composition correctly and clearly in English, they should be supported by the mastery of two main components of Language namely vocabulary and grammar. The wordlist is designed to make students focus on a particular set of vocabulary words might be a good way of developing the idea of noticing (Colburn, 2016). Several studies had also been conducted to discover the contribution of students’ vocabulary toward their writing ability. Ali (2016), Cahyono & Widiati (2015), McCutchen, et al (2014), Lesaux, et al (2014), Horst (2014), and Wilson (2014) found that vocabulary had an important role and provided the basis for developing students’ ability in communicating both in spoken and written. In term of guiding questions, the students had the opportunity to answer and
find out some information that existed in the animated film as a topic of their writing. Guiding questions aimed to develop students’ critical thinking and to know their understanding of the animated film that they had watched. Raimes (1983) in Wulandari et al (2015) asserts that guiding question is used to allow the students a little freedom in structuring sentence in their writing activities. After the students got their topic, the teacher directed them to answer the questions given in the worksheet. This strategy was used to dig the students’ understanding and knowledge about the topic in order to make it easier for them to develop their topic. The result showed that guiding questions given had affected the students’ ability significantly in writing a narrative paragraph. Supporting this result, some researchers such as Mujiono, Widiati, and Iragiliati (2013), Ritonga (2015), Maulida (2016), and Wulandari. Raja & Hasan (2015) revealed that guiding questions could improve the students’ English skill in writing. Another research project which focused on implementing guiding question for writing skill was conducted by Mousa-Inaty (2015). He found that the majority of the student considered that guiding questions were useful in helping them to master the topic that was going to write.

Organizing is the second step of POWER strategy. It was focused on the outlining on what the students are going to write based on the topic. The purpose of organizing is to provide the learner with a structural framework of information and helps to direct the learner’s attention to the key concepts and conceptual relationship (Tayib, 2016). In line with this statement, Gregg & Steinberg (2016, p. 14) states that the purpose of organizing process is to select the most useful of the materials retrieved by the generating process and organize them into a writing plan. In this study, the researcher employed the worksheet to the students in organizing their narrative writing. It focused on the generic structure of the narrative text namely orientation, complication, and resolution. The students were asked to organize and write the important things about their ideas that they had gotten from the animated film in the worksheet given. The worksheet is given to make students organize their ideas easily (Boumediange, Berrahal & Harji, 2017). Recent research concerning the importance of organizing in writing activity had been highlighted in a range of studies (Gillespie, Olinghouse, & Graham. 2013; Flores, 2015; Ningrum, Latief & Sulisty, 2016). They reported that organizing in writing process could enhance and strengthen the students’ knowledge and understanding gotten from their information.

Organizing is also closely to the brainstorming and mind mapping activity. In this study, the students were asked to highlight the main important information of the plot of the story. According to Mohammad & Hussein (2013) the writer can be motivated to do brainstorming to writing activities. Research evidence suggested that organizing, brainstorming the idea and mind mapping of the topic should be done in writing activities as part of motivating students to construct their writing in order (Hashempour, Rostampour, & Behjat, 2015; Manouchehry, Farangi, & Qaviketf, 2014; Al-Shaer, 2014). From the explanation above, we can state that organizing in writing activity should be given to help the students to construct their composition in order based on the generic structure of any writing paragraph.

Developing writing is considered as the most difficult task for the writers as it involves many aspects of writing such as the content, the organization, the language use, the vocabulary, and the mechanic aspect (Widiati, 2016). Relating to the present study, the teacher led the students to write a rough draft by giving a model of how to order ideas they produced in prewriting (prepare and organize) activities to become a rough draft. Modeling was considered very important by the students since they did not know how to compose a good narrative paragraph in their writing. Previous research (e.g Chen, Zhang & Yu, 2016; Limpo & Alves, 2013; and Li, 2016) had indicated that modeling was beneficial to the students’ conceptual development and help them to have a conceptual understanding of the task. Therefore, this study presented a model of narrative text at the first meeting in order that the students were familiar with the kind of this genre.

In writing activity, the teacher also guided the students to be able to write rough draft individually by asking them first to work in groups. In this study, the students worked in a group in the second meeting of the first cycle. After working with the group they would more confident in writing individually because they already had experience. The advantages of the working group are in line with the statement of Ur (1996, p. 232) that the use of group improves learning outcomes, it also fosters learner responsibility and independence, can improve motivation and contribute to a feeling of cooperation and the warmth in the class. Moreover, Yazdi-Amirkhiz, Ajideh & Leitner, 2016 found that group working reflects their role and promotes social interaction among the group members.

As presented in the previous part, the strategy used in this stage was peer editing. Brown (2001, p.
The implementation of POWER strategy combined with the animated film is successful to improve the students’ ability in writing narrative text.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the implementation of POWER strategy combined with animated film could improve the students’ narrative writing ability in terms of content, organization, vocabulary, language use, and mechanic. It can be seen in the students’ first cycle which is 23 students (65.71%) of the total students could achieve the minimum passing grade with the total mean score of those five aspects of writing found the mean score was 70.74. It was categorized as fair writing ability. Then in the second cycle, there was an improvement of the students writing ability which is 29 students (82.85%) could achieve the minimum passing grade. The mean score of the second cycle was 80.20 which categorized as good writing ability.

The implementation of POWER strategy combined with the animated film that has improved the students’ narrative writing ability in SMPS Kartika Kendari involved the following five procedures. They are preparing, organizing, writing, editing and rewriting. In preparing steps, the activities involved as follows. 1) Asking the students to answer and discuss the difficult words. Those words are related to the animated film which is given before they watch it. 2) Asking the students to do grammar exercise which related to the language features of narrative text. 3) Giving guiding questions which related to the animated film. 4) Asking the students to watch the animated film. 5) Asking the students to answer the guiding question given. 6) Asking the student to brainstorm and making list of important words based on guiding
questions. In organizing steps, the activities involved as follows: asking the students to make the outline of the main idea in each paragraph and asking the student to organize the plot of the story based on the animated film. In writing step, the students are asked to write the draft based on the guidelines and notes from preparing and organizing steps. In editing stage, the students are asked to do peer editing based on the provided guidelines. Meanwhile, for rewriting step, it involved some activities such as: asking the students to rewrite based on the correction from their peer and feedback from their teacher and asking the student to submit their final writing.

The English teachers are suggested to use this strategy as an alternative way to improve the ability of the student in writing skill and the media that is used in teaching writing should be appropriate for the students’ level and interest. Finally, for the next researcher who will conduct the same field of the study, it is recommended to use this study as an alternative reference in implementing the strategy in different skills or education level.

REFERENCES


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