

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Spreading knowledge is important for education. Effective teaching and sharing of information are essential for quality education systems. As written in At-Taubat verse 122:

وَمَا كَانَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لِيَنْفِرُوا كَآفَّةً فَلَوْلَا نَفَرَ مِنْ كُلِّ فِرْقَةٍ مِّنْهُمْ طَائِفَةٌ لِّيَتَفَقَّهُوا فِي الدِّينِ
وَلِيُنذِرُوا قَوْمَهُمْ إِذَا رَجَعُوا إِلَيْهِمْ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَحْذَرُونَ

According to this verse, studying is one of the fundamental duties of a Muslim. It goes beyond just acquiring knowledge for personal growth; Muslims are also encouraged to apply knowledge in their daily lives and, importantly, to share it with others. To effectively spread knowledge, various methods and way can be employed, ensuring that it reaches a wide audience and yields positive results. (Yasir, 2013).

A book is a great way to share knowledge widely. When information is written in a book, it becomes accessible to people in many places. To ensure that the knowledge is easily understood, the book must be written properly.

Good writing is key for readers to grasp the material clearly and avoid confusion. A well-written book not only presents information but also

helps readers comprehend it better. The way the author puts words together plays a crucial role in guiding the reader through the content smoothly.

Writing a book is not just about putting words on paper. It is about making the information easy to understand, creating a clear path for readers to follow. A properly written book becomes a tool for effectively sharing knowledge and reaching a diverse audience.

Writing is a crucial skill for sharing knowledge. It's a way to communicate and convey information through text. According to RahmtAllah (2020), writing is effective for expressing complex ideas. What's great about written text is that it can be stored and read for a long time. This makes it a valuable resource for students to study.

To ensure that readers understand the information correctly and avoid confusion, it's important to write clearly. Organizing and arranging the content properly play a big role in making the written material easy to grasp, turning it into an effective tool for sharing and preserving information and knowledge.

Composing a good writing is difficult. According to Amperawaty & Warsono (2018) Writing is a complex skill that involves recording and editing thoughts. To write effectively, students need to understand rhetorical structures, including the social function, language features, and schematic structures of texts. They added that students must develop competencies such as organizing ideas logically, using proper grammar, punctuation,

spelling, mechanics, and improving their writing style and expression. It means that to produce a good text, there are many aspects to consider.

Additionally, cohesion and coherent is essential aspect of good writing. Since the writer should offer his points in a clear, logical, and understandable order without any gaps while writing to others, a good writing should be cohesive and coherent (Masadeh, 2019) .Cohesion and coherent in writing contribute to reader comprehension. Cohesion will help to follow the flow of the text. It will create connection in ideas using word or phrases. It is allowing reader to understand how ideas related to each other. While, coherence makes the ideas could be written in rational way. It requires the writing to stay in topic and display an understandable structure. This implies that learning of these aspects is essential to produce a good writing

Students in English department of State Islamic Antasari Banjarmasin have learnt about writing since the 1st semester. They learnt how to write a sentence to essay as well as practice to write it every week. However, the researcher found out that students exhibit error in writing paragraph. Researcher observed that during seminar proposal students are given comment by lecturer regarding their paragraph cohesion and coherence. The majority of the paragraph produce by students often display a lack of coherence with their topic sentence, furthermore they could not elaborate their ideas in paragraph. It shows that writing cohesive and coherent paragraph is difficult for students. Based on problem above the researcher

carries out a research entitle “**Analyzing Students' Competency on Cohesion and Coherence in Students' Essay Writing**”. Since cohesion and coherence are crucial elements of effective communication, especially in written language. Researching and understanding how students develop and use these skills can lead to improved communication abilities, enabling them to express their ideas clearly and coherently.

B. Definition of Key Term

1. Essay

Toba, Nur, and Sanu (2019), as cited by Connely (2013), explained that an essay is made up of interconnected paragraphs that support a central thesis. In essence, essay writing involves organizing several paragraphs around a central topic and controlling a main idea. It consists of introduction, main body and conclusion.

2. Cohesion

Haliday & Hasan (1976) refers cohesion as describing the meaning connections in the text that define it as a piece of writing. Furthermore, Cohesion is grammatical and lexical aspect that can connect and organize text. In this research, cohesion refers to grammatical cohesion such as reference, substitution, conjunction, and ellipsis.

3. Coherence

Oshima & Hogue (2006) stated that coherence means that the transition to each sentence should be logical and flow smoothly. In this research cohesion can be achieved by repeating the key nouns, using

consistent pronoun, using of transition signal, and arranging in chronological order.

C. Research question

1. What are types of cohesion and coherence devices used by students in essay writing?
2. How are students' difficulties in producing cohesion and coherence in essay writing?

D. Objective of study

1. To find types of cohesion and coherence devices used by students in essay writing.
2. To identify students' difficulties to achieve cohesion and coherent in essay writing.

E. Significant of study

1. Theoretical

This research can provide the new insight of teaching and learning skill as well as the result of the research can be used to be references for the next researcher in their research.

2. Practical

- a. Students

The result of this research will motivate students to improve writing their skill especially in cohesion and cohesion aspect. So that students can communicate their opinion and idea through writing.

- b. Teacher

The result of the research can help teacher to identify students' problem during writing and can help students to improve on the specific needs of students writing.

c. Next Researcher

The information and outcomes presented in this study contribute to the existing body of knowledge on cohesion and coherence, offering a resourceful reference for those exploring this research domain.