

Chapter II

The Implementation of Mind Mapping in Students' English Writing Descriptive Text

2.1 Mind Mapping

Based on Porter & Hernacki (2008:152-159), definition of mind mapping is:

“Mind mapping juga dapat disebut dengan peta pemikiran. Mind mapping merupakan metode mencatat secara menyeluruh dalam satu halaman. Mind mapping menggunakan pengingat-pengingat visual dan sensorik dalam suatu pola dari ide-ide berkaitan. Peta pikiran atau Mind Mapping pada dasarnya menggunakan citra visual dan prasarana grafis lainnya untuk membentuk kesan pada otak.”
= (Mind mapping can called thinking map. Mind mapping is comprehensive writing technique in one page. Mind mapping use visuals reminder and sensory in one pattern from related ideas. Basically, mind mapping use visual imagery and another graphics infrastructure to create impression.)

Mind mapping is a new and quick way to learn and practice, and also creative way to take notes and make a framework. In mind mapping the students just have to draw the picture or stick the image, make some lines, and write down the ideas, it is the faster way to make a note. Picture or image, lines, and colors are the creative parts of this method. Mind mapping will attract the students because while they make a mind mapping, they use picture or image and colors at the same time. Not only for attract student's interest in writing but also help students to remember what they have written, because image and colors can facilitate students.

There are some basic principles in create mind mapping according to Ingemann, those are: pictures, headlines, and connection.

1. Pictures : the brain has an enormous capacity to remember pictures and images, in addition the brain will remember easily what we see. In particular, pictures or images is one of some basic in create mind mapping, because this pictures and image can help students to remember and develop about the topic easily.
2. Headlines : the brain is easier to remember single words, short phrases, and striking headlines than long text in paragraph. In particular, headlines are using to create mind mapping, so that the students can remember about the important points easily through headlines.
3. Connection : human consciousness always analyzes how things are connected to each other. A lot of brain's work is based on association and it automatically links different subjects together to create a system. In other word, human brain is naturally working in connection, it's same as mind mapping works with using branches as lines for connect the ideas to another. The advantages of following the brain works are the power of remember a thing and knowledge.

Mind mapping is simple and fun writing technique for students. Those are steps how to make mind mapping according to Buzan (2007:10):

1. Use blank paper without line and some colors pen.
2. Draw the picture or use an image in the center of paper.
3. Draw some branches which have relation with the main picture.
4. Write down some ideas in every branch.
5. In every branch we also can add some keywords like tree branches.

Mind mapping has simple instrument, students just have to prepare blank paper without lines and colors pen, and they ready to make mind mapping.

2.1.1 Mind Mapping Method in Teaching Writing

Mind mapping has many advantages in learning process, especially in English. Mind map can help students to improve their writing, before writing process students make the framework and develop the text towards mind mapping. Students will find this writing lesson more fun than usual, because they can make a text in easily and fun way. Al-Jarf (2009) findings revealed that mind mapping raised the performance of students at all levels of ability as they become more efficient in generating and organizing ideas for their writing. The students also displayed a positive attitude towards using Mind Mapping as a pre-writing activity.

From those finding, the writer conclude that mind mapping method as a pre-writing activity is very useful and help students a lot to make a text.

When creating mind map, students find it fun because the use of image or picture and colors. The use of keywords and branches also help students to remember the important point. Related to Wai Ling (2004) in his study, he revealed that mind mapping enabled students to plan more organized and systematic points, generate more ideas, order ideas much easier, and improve the clarity of ideas.

Since mind map using branches, it makes students write the ideas more organized and clarity. If students have another ideas, they just have to draw another branches and write down the headlines, it makes students can generate and explore more ideas. This way can help students to develop the text faster by following the framework which is using mind map.

2.2 Writing

According to Leo (2007:1) writing as a process of expressing ideas or thoughts in words. In writing the writer can express ideas and thoughts that he has in the form of sentences or paragraph that can readers understand. And according to Crimmon on St. Y. Slamet (2008:141)

menulis sebagai kegiatan menggali pikiran dan perasaan mengenai suatu subjek, memilih hal-hal yang akan ditulis, menentukan cara menuliskannya sehingga pembaca dapat memahaminya dengan mudah dan jelas. = (Writing as an activity to explore thought and feeling about an subject, to choose the things to write, determine how to write, so that the writer can understand easily and clearly.

Based on two definitions above writing is an activity to express about thought, ideas, opinion or writer feeling in form of sentences. In other word, writing is process to transfer ideas or thoughts in writer head and put it in the form of language that written. In writing, writer must concern about the way to write in order to make the reader understand easily about writer's purposes.

The purposes of writing according to Elina, Zulkarnaini, and Sumarno (2009:6), as follows:

1. Inform
2. Persuade
3. Educate
4. Entertain

Furthermore, before the students start to write the text, there is pre-writing process they should do. Pre-writing is one of the three stages of writing based on Brown (2000:348). The pre-writing stage encourages the generation of ideas, one of them is clustering (begin with key word, then add other words, using free association).

In writing activity, students try to convey ideas, thought, and opinion through the text form. Usually, writing consists of some paragraphs, each paragraph has five until six sentences. In writing, students tries to convey ideas or thoughts indirectly to readers, moreover, writer also should make the readers feel and see the things that writer try to convey in their writing. The purpose of writing for students are for educate them about writing in English.

To produce a good writing, writer should do pre-writing to choose the topic, generate some ideas, and arrange the ideas. Pre-writing process will help students to make the text easier by following the framework.

2.3 Descriptive Text

Definition about descriptive according to Alwasilah (2013:114),

Deskripsi adalah gambaran verbal ihwal manusia, objek, penampilan, pemandangan, atau kejadian. Cara penulisan ini menggambarkan sesuatu sedemikian rupa sehingga pembaca dibuat mampu (seolah merasakan, melihat, mendengar, atau mengalami sebagaimana dipersepsi oleh panca indera. = (Description is verbal description about person, object, appearance, scenery, or events. The way of writing is to describe something so that the readers are able to feel, see, hear, or experience as perceived by five senses.

According to Mukarto (2007:140)

Descriptive text is a kind of text to describe something, someone, or place. Descriptive text has two main parts, they are identification and description. The structure of a text is called the generic structure. Descriptive text is like describe white house, animals, fruits, etc.

Based on two definitions above, descriptive text is one kind of text that picturing or describing about something in the form of text. It might describe about person, animals, things, or circumstances. This text invite the readers to imagine the things that writer has written, not only about physically, but also feeling, taste, what writer saw, heard, experience, and circumstances. Descriptive text helps the readers to feel and see something directly through the text.

In writing descriptive text there are generic structures that students should follow: identification and description.

1. Identification : this part is to introduce and tell the object that will be describe in general.
2. Description : this part is to describe the object more specific, about physically, personality, circumstances, taste, and feeling, related to the object.

Characteristics of descriptive text those are:

1. Use simple present tense
2. Use attribute verb (are, am, is)
3. Use adjective (beautiful, tall, small, creative, interesting, etc.)