

## Teaching Writing Skill Using Instagram and Paper & Pen

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### ABSTRACT

*In this study, students' writing score were analyzed to see whether group of students who use paper and pen or Instagram were more effective to be used in teaching writing skill. Besides, students' response towards those two different methods were analyzed. Comparative research was carried out to know which method is more significance. By using one-way anova, the significance between the comparison use of paper and pen and social media (Instagram) is endeavored during writing process. The research was conducted in five treatments after pre-test were given and followed by post-test. Besides, questionnaire which consist of five close ended questions was also given to endeavor students' response. The findings from both groups showed that students' score who used Instagram was more significance. As it was shown that  $p\text{-value} > 0,05$  (alpha) which can be concluded that there is significance different between variables of pre-test and post-test of group of students who used Instagram and paper and pen. The result of the questionnaire showed students used Instagram were more positive rather than students who used paper and pen. Students in Instagram group were more comfort during learning writing since they get much more entertainment and vocabulary enrichment through related post appeared on their Instagram account.*

### KEYWORDS

*Writing skill; procedure text; instagram; paper and pen; comparative study.*

## INTRODUCTION

Writing for students is one of challenging skills for some students who are learning this for the first time. This skill involves memory, awareness of error, creativity to write sentences (Mavrou, 2020) Thus, having an interesting topic and suitable strategy as well as method in teaching writing are the keys to attract students to be able to express what they have in mind in order students are not burden during the writing process. Starting first writing, for students in the junior high school, is the teacher's job to encourage them. As the reason of teachers' job to encourage students to write is for the compulsory skill that students of junior high school should have as it is stated in the curriculum, writing, the main purposes is to express their thoughts to entertain and persuade their idea to get the agreement from the readers for the idea that the writer writes. However, as in junior high school is (probably) students' first writing kinds of texts experience, grammar and spelling have been huge problems that burden students who start writing for first time.

Another problem that bears in students' mind that makes them afraid of starting writing is the readers' comments. This happen to everyone who starts writing for the first time, as if the readers' comments are worse than death Nelson et al. (2015) Horbury & Edmonds (2021) mention that using paper for students helps them to understand what they are learning and

memorize what they write. However, this makes digitally illiterate. Lee (2020) confirms that using paper helps students to feel what they are writing but less confidence. Therefore, during writing activity, the teacher's affirmation can avoid them from frustrating in doing their first writing projects.

It is interesting when we, as teachers discuss about how students learn English and connected to the situation that they will face in the future. As we have known, in the era of 4.0 industry where technology has been used in our daily life; cannot be separated from our life. Information can be shared faster. Social media provides both entertainment and information. In education, there have been so many researches about the use of it to help students learn easily and improve their English skills. In English class, as have been mentioned above about Instagram and is the concern of this research, as one of parts of social media there are so many advantages of using this application to improve students writing skill. Another researcher also explains about the use of social media as the development of technology. It is the opinion of Syamsuar & Reflianto (2018) who said that social media gives positive impact towards the students' improvement in learning process. It helps students to improve their writing skill.

In social media, young adults like to post their daily activity using fancy caption to attract the viewers. If English teachers use this method, their writing skill will be improved. Moreover, nowadays, they prefer write the caption in English although sometimes errors are found, but this is the chance for the English teacher to see this as the opportunity to attract them learning English particularly improve their writing skill. Besides, as the in the future, there will be a massive development of technology, their skill should be integrated using technology in order after they graduate from school, they are competitive enough to face the future. Facing this situation, where technology gives impact in all aspects of human, education as the important part of country should use it as well. Moreover, since technology is widely used, people can communicate easily. It is not limited to different time.

Amalia & Prasetyorini (2018) report that using social media to communicate gives different meaning to the viewer. Some people might think that what we express in our social media by writing the ideas, is impolite, meanwhile the other might think it is good idea to express in the social media and people can access it. These assumption in social media, furthermore, based on their research, can be avoided by using emoticons and try to write polite sentence by using correct dictions.

Nevertheless, (Verheijen et al., 2020) also argue that using social media will give negative impact to the students' literacy as they sometimes do not pay attention to the diction they use to write or the correct grammar. Even so, Wil, Yunus, and Suliman (2019) suggest to use social media, for instance, Instagram, WhatsApp, Facebook, and snap chat as these are better media to use in learning English since it is fun to use, give important information and interactive medium. Furthermore, Feng et al. (2019) state that the use of social media which can be accessed through personal computer (PC) or mobile phone that uses keyboard-writing during writing process, has main difference among those benefits that have been mention above such as students of junior high school easily involve in learning process, faster in the process of writing a text and they are not boring easily during the learning process as it has a lot of entertainments such as pictures, memes, and videos. In this research, Instagram is used as this social media platform provide students with enjoyable learning activities; this platform provides students with free stress; thus, their writing performance is better than when they have to use paper and pen

Other than using social media to improve writing skill, handwriting which is the most common in writing also has role in improving students' writing skill as it is stated by Feng et al (2019) that it is as an essential life skill for everyone. By using innovative strategies to

improve writing skill, it is helpful to improve their writing ability. Pritchard et al (2020) also find that by using paper and pen in writing process, students are trained to be better in writing performance in terms of grammar and spelling. Lee (2021) found that students are better at recalling what they have learnt by using handwriting but this method takes long time in learning process.

Nowadays, there have been so many kinds of methods in improving students' writing skill that match to the handwriting technique. The result was not bad, the methods, indeed, show that although students use handwriting, their writing skill also shows improvement. Verheijen et al (2020) explain that by using paper and pen, teachers can control their students' improvement in terms of language use, the neatness of their writing in order it is readable.

Jupri (2019) using handwriting during writing process gives effects to the writing quality as it involves eyes, brain and memorization. In English class, students' who is assigned to write a text on their book, cannot write words in right order.

Atkinson, J. (2020) strengthen the evidence that handwriting has importance of the improvement of students' writing skill. Moreover, if the students' does not really know how to write a sentence in paper and pen, they are hardly use typewriting and there will be so much errors found in their writing. Limpo (2018) suggests that when students learn how to do writing in foreign language, the first thing they should do is write a sentence using handwriting.

Research of Shibata & Omura (2018) showed that handwriting is helpful although some people might think that it is too old to be used in learning process, in this research, too old means it is traditional way in writing activity. However, those researchers, explain why handwriting should be used by the students' who start writing, it is they think what they are going to write carefully.

Longobardi & Spataro (2018) show that children who write kinds of text using handwriting technique are more fluently as they have memorized some words and are able to arrange sentences with grammatically correct. Moreover, their accuracy in writing is better than students' who write using technology. This is due to the way they write the text carefully using appropriate words.

By using Instagram teachers can explore their students' creativity and help them to improve language learning through the exposure that students can have in other users' content (Aloraini, 2018; Tanjung, 2023). Rasheed et al., (2020) confirm in their research that using social media for students helps them to avoid cyber bullying by giving them appropriate assignment to post. This also promotes mental health for young social media users.

Apart from those two methods, as this research will be conducted in one of junior high schools in Sumenep, Madura, the material will be used in this study is taken from the curriculum of ninth graders. It is procedure text. In this text type, Students write the receipt of food, drink or write the instruction of how to do something. This text is chosen because it has social function to share their idea to people around them, besides is helpful to help students to improve their comfort and ability to write what they do in their daily life. According to Jupri (2019) this text is suitable for students to show or perform their work, as they have to show their work to people around them so that people are interested in doing the same thing by following the instruction.

In this research, the researcher uses paper and pen and social media, thus, the psychology factor will be analyzed based on those strategy. According to Mpungose (2020) using social media allow students to improve their creativity without any pressure that can affect their learning style. Meanwhile, (Guan et al., 2021) states that when using paper based, students

are able to recognize the words that they are learning. The spelling of certain words is easier to memorize. (Wirmando et al., 2021) argue that the most dangerous psychology effect of teenagers is the use of social media. Cyber bullying is one of issues for social media users. This happens as they read other users' comments or caption that contain inappropriate words or sentences lead and it makes them mentally down or even suicide. Thus, their research found that giving students assignments using social media as the media. This also helps students to learn select diction in their caption. The term psychology in this study is related to teenagers as well as their comfort in learning using social media.

The researcher wants to emphasize that this study is limited to procedure text. Meanwhile, the research gap for this study is the students' psychology which concern on students' comfort since the researcher will endeavor the result according to students' questionnaire. The use of Instagram as the method used in this research is based on the pilot study. According to the result, all of students in IX A have Instagram account. In line with the background of study above, the problem of study is formulated as follows: Is Instagram a more effective method compares to paper and pen method in writing procedure text? How is the students' opinion towards the two different methods in writing procedure text.

## RESEARCH METHODS

From the background of the study above and to answer the research question which about the comparison of two different methods that is significance to be used in writing skill, thus the research design is quantitative. Moreover, in this research there are two inter-raters that will assess the students' writing.

### *Participants*

This study was conducted at SMPN 1 KALIANGET which is located on JL. Raya Kalianget, Sumenep. There were 31 students in each class. This school is chosen as the students have achieved some national competitions. There are two group of students that involve in this study. First group is students of IX A which as the experiment group and use Instagram; the second group is students of IX C which as the control group and use paper and pen.

### *Instruments*

#### *Test*

The students were asked to choose one of topics that they are familiar with. They were asked to write a procedure text based on the topic they chose. The topics are based on the English teacher's suggestion. In the post test, they were asked to write procedure text how to make handcraft. The blue print of the pre-test and post-test could be seen in the following table

**Table 1.** Blueprint of The Tests

Stage	Focus	Aspects	Instruction	Duration
Pre-test	Procedure text: how to make boba, how to create Instagram account, how to plant flowers.	Content, communicative achievement, organization, and language	Based on the picture you chose, write procedure text how to make it correctly within 50 words.	45 minutes
Post-test				

The writing scoring rubric is taken from CEFR for B1 level which according to this level, the ninth graders are able to convey information they feel to be important. The inter-rater is

the English teacher of IX A and IX C. The final scores obtained from final scores are the summing up of the researcher's and the inter-rater's score and dividing them by two.

Following five time of treatments, the students were asked to fill out a questionnaire. The questionnaire consisted of five closed-ended questions. The aim of the questionnaire was to gauge students' opinion towards the different implementation of two different methods in two different groups of students. Students should choose strongly agree, agree, slightly disagree, and disagree. Their answer related to their response towards two different methods. There are five questions that include in the questionnaire. They are: the topic given, their familiarity of the topic, the improvement of vocabulary and grammar that they get from any sources, the easiness of the method they use in writing class and their comfort of using the method in writing class.

### **Data Analysis Procedures**

The data were analyzed based on pre-test and post-test. I use one-way anova to compare the significance between the comparison use of paper and pen and social media (Instagram) during writing process. Based on the result of the one-way anova, the significance of the two methods was analyzed and concluded.

The researcher asked two experts to validate the instruments. The aim of the validation test is to know whether or not the instruments are good enough to be used for the research. The instruments which are validated by experts are test items, scoring rubric, and questionnaire.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### ***The effectiveness of Instagram***

The pre-test was conducted on 29 July 2022. The aim of this test is to know students' understanding and competence of writing procedure text. Based on the result of the pre-test, both students who use social media and pen and paper have the same level of competence in writing procedure text. Both researcher and inter-rater have similarity in giving them score.

According to pre-test, some students could not convey the information well, some students still used Bahasa Indonesia for some vocabulary items they forgot or unknown, and errors in grammar are still found.

The treatments for both groups of students were conducted after pre-test. The researcher gave five times of treatments as it was based on school permission. The treatments were conducted during 1<sup>st</sup> August up to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

Considering students' pre-test, the researcher asked students to use dictionary for paper and pen group. Although it sometimes time consuming when they had to search vocabulary, they unknow as they did not really know how to use dictionary, thus, the researcher helped them give little bit explanation how to use dictionary. Meanwhile for students who use Instagram, beside using dictionary, their vocabulary improved through the related post which appeared in their Instagram account. The feeds from another user that related to what they posted during the treatment which appeared on their Instagram account helped to them recognize new words. For example, when students posted a new feed that related to viral food receipt, they found another user's post and the caption they read, helps them to recognize it. Furthermore, the researcher reminded them how to write procedure text properly following correct language feature to both of group of students, thus, their writing product during the treatment was getting better. However, the writing product of students from paper and pen group, it was still found that a number of students used Bahasa Indonesia if they did not know how to mention it in English.

After giving five times of treatments, the researcher gave them post-test. In this test, the students were given a topic. It was the same as what they had in the pre-test. According to their post-test, the group of students who used Instagram had better score as their vocabulary were varied, the language feature was better, the way they convey the message in their writing had betterment. Meanwhile, group of students who used paper and pen, some of them still found using Bahasa Indonesia, they did not use proper language feature and the way they convey the message was still unclear.

Before anova test was tested to the students' pre-test and post-test, homogeneity was tried out to group of students who used Instagram and paper and pen Based on the pre-test and post-test of the two group of students, it is found that the level of significant of students who used Instagram is  $\geq .005$  Meanwhile, the post-test of level of significant students who used paper and pen is  $\leq .005$

### Paper and Pen

**Table 2.** Homogeneity test of variances in paper and pen group

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Test Result	Based on Mean	.586	1	60	.447
	Based on Median	.695	1	60	.408
	Based on Median and with adjusted df	.695	1	59.420	.408
	Based on trimmed mean	.631	1	60	.430

There are two hypothesizes of the homogeneity table above, first the null hypothesis is data variance is humogen. Second, the alternative hypothesis is data variance is not humogen. The inference of the table is  $0.447 > 0.05$  ( $H_0$  accepted) accepted as p-value  $> 0,05$  (alpha) thus, the data variance from variabel pre-test of paper and pen or post-test paper and pen is humogen.

**Table 3.** Anova test of paper and pen group

ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2009.823	1	2009.823	13.771	.000
Within Groups	8756.774	60	145.946		
Total	10766.597	61			

The null hypothesis of the anova table above is population is the same. Meanwhile, the alternative hypothesis: pair is different. As p-value =  $0.000 < 0.05$  It can be concluded that the data variance from variabel pre-test of paper and pen or post-test paper and pen is not significance.

## Instagram

**Table 4.** Homogeneity test of variances in instagram group

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Test Result	Based on Mean	.021	1	60	.886
	Based on Median	.012	1	60	.911
	Based on Median and with adjusted df	.012	1	59.634	.911
	Based on trimmed mean	.021	1	60	.884

The table indicates two hypothesizes first, the null hypothesis data of variance is humogen, second the alternative humogen: data of variance is not humogen. The p-value  $>0,05$  (alpha) thus, the data variance from variabel pre-test of instagram or post test instagram is humogen.

**Table 5.** Anova test of instagram group

ANOVA					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	272.581	1	272.581	3.290	.075
Within Groups	4970.968	60	82.849		
Total	5243.548	61			

According to Anova table, the null hypothesis is the sum of population is the same and alternative hypothesis is one different minimum pair. p-value shows  $0.075 > 0.05$  which means there is significance different between variable of pre test and post test of instagram.

### **Students' Responses Towards the Use of Both Methods**

Based on the students who used paper and pen, their response to the first indicator of the questionnaire which about topic given 64.5% of students were strongly agree and 35.5% were agree that the topic given during writing activity are interesting. They could write the text with good communicative language as they knew what the topic about. Furthermore, the content that they wrote has different style. It was they express their idea using their own words. Although in pre-test their language was not good, but as treatment was given, their language was getting better. Meanwhile, in the second indicator, there were students

The second indicator in paper and pen group is familiarity of the topic. According to the questionnaire, there were 61.3% of students were strongly agree ang 38.7% of students were agree that they are familiar with the topic. Since the topics in this research are ones which viral on the Instagram. However, some students, in fact, were not really familiar with the

topic. It was they did not really know how to express it in English. Thus, in pre-test, no wonder they used Bahasa Indonesia.

The third indicator in paper and group is the improvement of their vocabulary and grammar during this activity. Based on the result of the questionnaire, there were 64.5% of students were strongly agree and 35.5% were agree that their vocabulary and grammar are improved. This could be seen in their writing products which language was getting better.

The last indicator in paper and pen group is their comfort during they used this method. According to their response, there were 80.6% of students were strongly agree and 19.4% of students were agree that they feel comfort using this method. Since they are accustomed to using this method, they enjoyed the activity. Besides, the selection of the topics helped them to be able to write procedure text.

Meanwhile students who are in instagram group, their response to the first indicator which about their improvement of vocabulary and grammar, there were 74.2% of students were strongly agree and 19.4% of students were agree. e that they found themselves improved in mastering vocabulary and write the procedure with grammatically correct. Although it was not completely perfect, yet the way they expressed each sentence was clear enough.

The second indicator is their familiarity of the topic that they had to write the procedure text and they had to post in on their instagram account. There were 80.7% of students were strongly agree and 19.3% of students were agree that they were familiar with the topic given. Thus, when they had to wrote the caption, they could match the picture and suitable caption.

The last is about the easiness and comfort of the use of this method. According to the result, there were 80.7% of students were strongly agree and 16.1% of students were agree that this method is easier to be used in English class, particularly in learning writing skill. As in this method, students use an application that they always access when they are at home as entertainment. Meanwhile, they use it as one of methods to be used at school, particularly in English class.

The findings of this research have demonstrated that students who used Instagram during writing activity showed better level of significance instead of students who used paper and pen. This finding is suitable with the statement by Katz & Nandi (2021) by using Instagram, students can post a discussion in detail followed by a picture that describe the discussion. Besides, the researcher let the students free to choose the picture, so that they could type the caption based on their interpretation. This was done in order the researcher was able to build their affective factor, it was their self-confidence. (Wijayati & Mardianti, 2021)state that students who learn English as foreign language cannot be separated from the process of learning the target language. Furthermore, this media can boost their learning process

The positive impact of Instagram use, according to Rasheed et al. (2020) it helps students to be more creative and motivate them to be better in writing as there will be so many viewers view what they post and effects on the number of likes. This also supported by the statement of Sakkir et al (2016) the decision of using media in teaching writing, helped them to be more comfort during the writing activity. This feeling will lead them to have improvement in writing skill. Another statement by Putri (2022) found that students vocabulary was improved as in Instagram the related post will appear as the students search or post a certain feed. The total of like they got, indicates that their thoughts which they express on Instagram has been supported by their followers (Keyte et al., 2021) Thus, during the treatment, they are excited in learning writing skill as every time they post a new feed, they got total like they have expected. However, although this group of students use google translate in some times, the researcher allowed them. As based on Kai & Hua (021)found that students who use google translate in learning writing skill beside improving their vocabulary mastery,

show positive improvement as this tool show the utilization of vocabulary learning writing skill in a context. Although they did it, I always remind them to use their printed dictionary.

During the process of treatment, most of students in paper and pen group still used Bahasa Indonesia. This was because they seldom bring or use it in English class. They always ask their English teacher to translate some words or sentences they unknown and write it on the white board. They also asked the researcher to do the same thing during the treatment. Learning new vocabulary is challenging, that is why they tend to rely on their teacher instead of using dictionary (Ali & Anwar, 2021) Thus, in this research, taking a dictionary to the class was a must.

Avila et al (2021) state that using different strategies and methods helped them to be more motivated in learning English particularly writing skill. Moreover, they will not overwhelm during the process. Although students in Instagram group could express their idea by typing their work, typo is something they could not be avoided. Wulandari (2021) found that students who used type writing, always made mistake especially typo since they enjoy the process of writing without paid their attention to every word they type. Nevertheless, in paper and pen group it did not really work because there were only some students from this group got themselves are better in their writing products. This is suitable with the research findings of Pritchard et al (2020) which state that by using paper and pen, students' ability in spelling will be better, and they can write even faster with correct word spelling. Ganiyevna & Taxirovna (2022) showed, on the research, that even adult, when they use paper and pen in their weaknesses in this skill are detected. Such as they cannot express their complex idea or avoiding typo. Besides, time consuming is one of the big challenges. Nevertheless, this can be managed in secondary school learners. It is by giving them familiar topic that they have already had the background knowledge and the vocabulary used to write the text is easy. Such as they cannot express their complex idea or avoiding typo. Besides, time consuming is one of the big challenges. Nevertheless, this can be managed in secondary school learners. It is by giving them familiar topic that they have already had the background knowledge and the vocabulary used to write the text is easy.

According to the result of the questionnaire, students who used instagram showed positive response towards the use of it. They showed that the topics are interesting and they were familiar with that. The topic selected for these students are bored which they can figure out. This characteristic is stated a topic should be concrete and easily to be expected by the writer. This what made them choose strongly agree and agree for the statement that the topic is interesting and they are familiar with it. Another statement is exposed by Bui & Luo (2021) who explain that the familiarity of topic for writing skill help students to be easily express their idea towards it. Furthermore, (Latifi & Noroozi, 2021) state that the familiarity of a topic gives students clear idea to write and create a text.

The improvement of vocabulary mastery and grammar in both groups showed positive and negative response. The positive response come from students who had willingness to use their dictionary as the researcher had shown how to use it. Besides, the activity during treatment supported their English learning improvement. Meanwhile, students who showed negative response, 6.4% of students were disagree towards the use of Instagram, according to the interview which was done to get further information, they said that they lack of motivation during using this media. Moreover, they do not really like learning foreign language. These students like learning art. This situation is suitable with the statement of Darwin & Norton (2021) students most motivation learning foreign or second language is the motivation behind them. It can be the topic or their needs of learning English as they live where everyone surround them speak English. Nevertheless, as most of students in this class are interested in using social media where the most of the topic are about online games and

viral food. The other statement is stated by Wang (2021) students who have motivation can create and engage easily. In this case, the topic given motivated them to learn English particularly enriching their vocabulary and grammar to create procedure text.

The last is about their easiness and comfort of using the two different methods. In this part, there were 3.2% of students were disagree that using this method is either comfort or easy. Students who disagree that using paper and pen is either comfort or easy is in line with the reason by Skar et al (2022) that students who use paper and pen in writing activity forget easily with what they are going to write. Thus, they lose their interest in explaining or expressing their idea on a paper. However, Spilling (2021) argue that students who use paper and pen have good memory on how to write suitable letter or words rather than those who type it. Hence, students' writing skill can be monitored easily if they use paper and pen rather than type it. From all the findings and brief discussion related to the use of paper and pen as well as social media, the study about students' psychology which related to their motivation particularly their comfort has been proven by Lai & Tai (2021) that social media, in fact, give unique language learning method. The total of like, other users' attention and reaction to what one post give significance motivation in learning language. Furthermore, (Ariantini et al., 2021) state that fun learning which they can learn to improve their grammar or vocabulary through related account.

The use of social media for students' psychology effect, in this reserach, motivation will be discussed. According to Kolhar et al (2021) social media is widely and often used by teenagers since covid 19 outbreak. However, there are still some students misuse it. Thus, Barrot (2021) suggest teachers to have different learning activity, since for this research, writing activity can be in group or peer or individual. Zheng et al. (2022) also uncovered that students who used social media which it leads them to social interaction have high motivation in learning as they felt comfort during the use of Instagram in writing process.

## **CONCLUSION**

The result of the students' pre-test and post-test in both Instagram and paper and pen group show that students who used Instagram showed that it is a more effective method to be used than paper and pen. Moreover, the result of students' score who used Instagram is more significance. This is because students who used Instagram were more interested in learning English using different method. Besides, their vocabulary mastery and their understanding of grammatical pattern use in procedure text were improved. This was because in Instagram, they learn some posts that relate to what they had uploaded, furthermore, the total of likes they got made them interested in learning English. Meanwhile, students who used paper and pen showed that this method was not significance because they used it habitually and some students, during treatment and post-test, they used Bahasa Indonesia.

Second, students' response which related to their psychology showed that students who used Instagram had good motivation in learning English. Using this method helped them to improve their writing skill by presenting the best writing product they upload as based on the questionnaire, students who used Instagram were comfort during the learning activity. Meanwhile students who used paper and pen, were not really comfort as they have always used this method.

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