

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Problem

Writing is basically a form of communication to express an idea or a concept of thought, but occasionally, it is not only writing self-opinion without evidence or fact. An academic research paper, for example, obviously requires in-depth analysis, other than arguments, to present the facts. Consequently, to produce well-written academic research papers, such as journals, term papers, or theses, it is necessary to master writing skills since the output of writers' thoughts is required to be organized scientifically and systematically, moreover when those long essays become a requisite for obtaining a degree in formal education, proceeding to a higher level of education, or applying for an occupation. In this case, the writer shall carry out research before producing the academic paper.

Retrieved from Monash University's website, academic writing should be presented with a formal tone and avoid an individual's opinion to make it objective. Therefore, acquiring writing skills for producing academic papers involves knowledge in some terms, such as reading comprehension and mastering vocabulary. On the other hand, applying paraphrasing as a technique in creating academic papers is a form of writing skill as well. As cited in Rogerson & McCarthy (2017):

Academic writing is largely reliant on the skill of paraphrasing to demonstrate that the author can capture the essence of what they have read, they understand what they have read and can use the appropriately acknowledged evidence in support of their responses. (Fillenbaum; Keck; Shi)

Burrows, Potthast & Stein (as cited in Ardelia & Tiyas, 2019), say that paraphrasing is rewriting content while retaining the initial meaning, and it is necessary to use in journalism, anonymous work, and raising the standard of customer reviews. Paraphrasing intends to change the original text into other words, despite the fact that it is actually more challenging for academic purposes. Furthermore, paraphrasing is used to restate or rewrite the wording without transforming the meaning in context. The structure of the paraphrased version is probably different from the original, but the main idea shall remain the same.

Based on the pre-research questionnaire result, most diploma students of the English Language and Culture Department of Darma Persada University knew about paraphrasing earlier when they were in high school. It reaches 71% of the students who know how to paraphrase and 82% of them who know the function of paraphrasing. Most of them say that they produce a paper or writing as an assignment in college. Consistently, 82% of the students apply paraphrasing in writing. That result indicates that most of them are not unknowledgeable about paraphrasing.

The result also shows that most of the students, which equals 82%, rarely do paraphrasing and find problems applying it while producing the paper or writing. However, 82% of them argue that paraphrasing is an important skill in writing, and in line with that, all students state that it is necessary to improve their ability in paraphrasing. In correspondence with the result of an interview, the students know about paraphrasing in general and only a few strategies they are familiar with. They also encounter barriers related to a lack of vocabulary.

Meanwhile, the lecturer mentions in the interview that paraphrasing is very important. Whenever we want to cite someone's opinion, we need to paraphrase because we should not copy-paste the original text directly or similarly to avoid plagiarism. The students are urged to learn how to paraphrase since they have a very low skill of writing and have a problem explaining the ideas. Despite the fact that most of the students are familiar with paraphrasing, they have problems applying it to paraphrasing. Hence, further research is conducted by discovering any barriers to paraphrasing the students encounter and how to overcome them prior to analyzing the most commonly used paraphrasing strategies.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Problems to identify in the research, which are related to the background, are paraphrasing strategies mostly applied by the students, the barriers to paraphrasing, and how to overcome those barriers. Other than replacing the original text with other words, the paraphrased version shall maintain the main idea of the source text. The difficulties in paraphrasing may result from having the least knowledge of how to apply its strategies. By discovering the barriers, they may encounter while doing

the paraphrasing and how to overcome them, this research will investigate the most applied strategies of paraphrasing subsequently.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

The scope of the research problem will be limited to identifying the barriers to paraphrasing encountered by the 5th-semester diploma students of English Language and Culture of Darma Persada University, overcoming those barriers, and identifying the types of paraphrasing strategies that are generally applied in paraphrasing writing task.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

According to the aforementioned limitation, the formulations of the problem will be as follows:

1. What are the barriers to paraphrasing the 5th-semester diploma students of English Language and Culture of Darma Persada University encounter?
2. How to overcome those barriers to paraphrasing?
3. What types of paraphrasing strategies do the students generally apply in paraphrasing?

1.5. Objectives of the Research

Related to the formulation of the problem, the objectives of the research are:

1. To identify the barriers to paraphrasing through a questionnaire.
2. To discover the solutions to overcome the barriers to paraphrasing.
3. To analyze the strategies in paraphrasing generally applied by 5th-semester diploma students of English Language and Culture of Darma Persada University based on the writing task given.

1.6. Benefit of the Research

The analysis result of the research is intended to have the benefit to others. To the lecturers, this research is to depict students' comprehension of paraphrasing, map out the most applied paraphrasing strategies and what barriers they have encountered, and as well how to overcome those barriers. To the students, this

research is to identify their writing skills related to paraphrasing strategies, what barriers they have encountered, and how to overcome those barriers. Thus, they can improve their ability to apply paraphrasing strategies. To the readers, this research is expected to increase their knowledge of paraphrasing strategies.

1.7. Systematic Organization of the Research

As a guide to readers and to best comprehend the research, its systematic organization is as follows:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

This chapter defines the background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objectives of the research, method of the research, benefit of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The chapter of literature review consists of writing and paraphrasing theories and definitions, related theories to writing and paraphrasing, paraphrasing strategies, barriers to paraphrasing, the importance of paraphrasing, and previous related studies.

CHAPTER 3 : RESEARCH METHOD

This research applies mixed-method research and the subchapters consist of:

- a. Time and Location
- b. Research Approach and Method
- c. Research Object and Data
- d. Data Collection Technique
- e. Data Analysis Technique

CHAPTER 4 : AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' WRITING SKILLS IN PARAPHRASING: A CASE STUDY OF 5TH- SEMESTER DIPLOMA STUDENTS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT OF DARMA PERSADA UNIVERSITY

This chapter describes the analyses of a questionnaire and the writing task as the instruments applied to the research which results in findings and discussion.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

This chapter consists of a conclusion and suggestions based on the completed research. The conclusion describes the problems along with the result in objective analysis. Meanwhile, the way of how to overcome the problems will be described in suggestions.

