International Journal of Engineering & Technology, 7 (3.21) (2018) 464-466

International Journal of Engineering & Technology

Website: www.sciencepubco.com/index.php/IJET

Research paper

University Writing Guidebook for Natural, Social Sciences and Humanities

Hilmi Aulawi[1] , M. Ali Ramdhani[2] , Dedi Sulaeman[3]

[1]Sekolah Tinggi Teknologi Garut
[2]Universitas Garut
[3]UIN Sunan Gunung Djati
**Corresponding author E-mail: hilmi_aulawi@sttg.ac.id*

Abstract

Natural and social sciences have its own uniqueness in seeing, describing and analyzing a phenomenon. Humanities have also its own distinctiveness between them. Literature, as one of department in humanities has its extreme perspective in considering a phenomenon. While natural and social sciences describing fact, literature is indeed describing fiction. These two different paradigms have its consequences to the way of students' writing for their papers. Since literature as one of humanities beside natural and social sciences in a university, this research investigates the university writing guidebook provided by the university in leading the students' writing in describing fact and fiction. This research uses content analysis by analyzing four writing guide books emphasizing on how to write the final paper for natural, social sciences and literature (humanities). The result show that the four university writing guidebooks provided the writing for natural and social sciences, namely how to describe and analyze facts. While for literature, on how to analyze fiction, the university writing guidebook does not provide yet. This research contributes for the university that university must provide the rules of final paper for literature students on how to write their final papers.

Keywords: *Not Available*

1. Introduction

Explicitly, a guidebook in writing an academic writing, thesis, tells that a scientific work must have method. Musthafa (2008) believes that in its deepest form, research is viewed as a systematic effort which follows certain procedure systems in answering questions of some data. The way to find out the data and procedures that should be done to collect and analyze data included in scientific work procedures (read: method). Swales & Feak (1994) explain that method is a very important part in a research. It is because the position of research method is as standard procedures (work steps) which are considered effective in solving a problem in a certain field (Kemenag, 2010: 18). More specific, Swales & Feak (1994) describe some characteristics of method as follows: (1) it describes method details and procedures explicitly; (2) it is a low pacing since it does not use any researchers' background of knowledge; (3) It Includes justification, explanation, and sometimes the examples, and (4) the terminologies are often repeating.
The research method which is referred here is the method in terms of science epistemology, which consists of the following elements:

a. Research Design
b. Time and place of research
c. Participants
d. Respondents
e. Data
f. Source of data
g. Data collection
h. Data analysis
i. Research instrument, including interview, questionnaire, and observation

Thesis is a scientific writing that is discussing problems with method(s). A simple reason to write a thesis for most students is to require a graduation. Students in undergraduate level have to select a topic that is necessarily interesting and find the right way to write it. To capture the feasible topic demands a research. Understanding specific topics depends on being knowledgeable about other topics that a book might not yet have presented.
Research covers main pillar in developing academic culture. Student research is based on assumption that invention and discovery are success attainment basis. As a university product, research in undergraduate level needs clear activity format. It must be able to give substance.
As scientific work, research must follow some universal scientific rules. If there is something special needed from research it will be some things as study field, model of writing format, and particularity concerned with methodology. What is called research, because of its relevance to different disciplines and professions, challenges anyone to arrive at a succinct definition. Too brief a definition will seem to exclude one discipline or another. Too broad a definition will seem uselessly global. Within its own particular discipline or profession, it connotes a large body of research, embracing a variety of highly contrasting methods (Yin, 2011).
The definition of thesis (in Indonesian academic writing called *skripsi*) is one of a kind of scientific writing that is constituted research report, as final assignment to get an undergraduate academic degree or *Sarjana*; the procedure and its administrative technique are arranged by the university (UIN SGD, 2010). The thesis writing has characteristics of:

Copyright © 2018 Authors. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

1. Objective data description and aimed to solving problems as explorative as related to scientific study field that is appropriate with the chosen study program;
2. Using kinds of data from empirical research and or relevant literature review;
3. Being written in Indonesian, English, or Arabic with their language patterns;
4. Following scientific rules and research methodology;
5. Having minimal pages of sixty by using *bahasa* Indonesian and forty by using foreign language (such as English, Arabic, or etc.);
6. Thesis writing equals to six semester credit system.

Man has been thinking his or her origin since long, through many hard and complicated thinking processes continuously. Man's inclination continuously thinks to bear its reservoir in philosophy. Philosophy can be said as "rational estimation art" (Russel; 2002:1). Durant states that philosophy can be metaphor of marines who grab the coast to land its infantry. Philosophy has won the path of knowledge. While knowledge roles to formulate and complete philosophical result to be relied knowledge.

A philosopher starts actions through deep, united, and directive thinking process. Descartes, even, said "Corgito ergo sum, I think, therefore I am". Philosophy tries to find out the basic of everything existed. Machan (1977) expresses as "Philosophy is an activity; that is, something done by human being and directed toward some goals. Philosophy is something quite specific; it is a human activity of certain kind, not just any variety of gabbing, speculating or debating". Philosophical science is study or research to answer various questions about scientific base. It is about object that is studied by that science (ontology), and methods to achieve science (Epistemology) and what is it that science to be used for (axiology). Through philosophy, science has been developed very fast. Its leveled knowledge has been done to answer various questions appear in every new-born science.

From then, method has established itself as the powerful design for a research. It is a normal phenomenon since philosophy is admitted to be the only logical origin of knowledge to many sciences. For one example field of study, linguistics is prominent to obey this methodological technique. On the other hand, literature, as another kind of art as Aristotle said, has its own epistemology.

This literary epistemology theorizes another term. There are to be said some critical theories held. These are kinds of method-like as said in philosophical terms. The critical theories build their own methods which lie inside the theories. We can trace each method of theory, if we want to, as in the research methods. Research is a systematic investigation to establish facts or a search for knowledge.

Progress in almost every field of science depends on the contributions made by systematic research; thus research is often viewed as the cornerstone of scientific progress. Broadly defined, the purpose of research is to answer questions and acquire new knowledge. Research is the primary tool used in virtually all areas of science to expand the frontiers of knowledge. (Marczyk, Geoffrey. *Essentials of Research Design and Methodology*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2005: 116)

While in many student writings (in forms of theories of structuralism, formalism, Marxism, feminism, and reader response) these study would become research. Considering the field has broadened in extrinsic approach. The field of extrinsic approach indeed needs the form of research writing. Even though the used theories are the same, but because they are free from and also scoping the writing, writer, the world outside the text, then the writing or thesis is formed in a research. With this judgment qualitative and quantitative research can be conducted in literary research.

Baker handouts a research paper as a critic Kenneth Burke describes is as an engagement in a conversation and includes any number of other scholarly voices that are theoreticians. The writing is manifestation of some theories that are talking together by researcher contribution. One that contributes to that conversation by making him/herself is an informed participant in it. One becomes not just a careful reader of the text in question, but a historian of that text's life. In knowing those things and contributing to the conversation about the text, theoretician keeps the theory alive—not just the text, but the conversational theories that are important. This conversation is about what someone's reading, how to read, why is it read, and what to value. (Baker, Geoff. How to Write a Research Paper in Literature. English: CSU—Chico. gabaker@csuchico.edu)

Baker states research in literature can and should share of the sort of diligent, systematic hard work that takes place in a laboratory. We tend to amaze the process of critical writing and think of it as the product of genius rather than labor, but it often uses some of the same processes as hard science: forming a hypothesis, collecting data, testing those data against the hypothesis, and then reaching a conclusion.

Muhazir (2002: 4) clarifies that scientist needs to use scientific philosophical base. This base is used for research method. Such is the case to know several things: (1). philosophical consciousness, which means which one to use consciousness approach the proper scientific philosophy; (2) theoretical consciousness, which means the proper usage for research theory or the model; and (3) technical consciousness, which means the proper usage of research technique.

Muhazir (2002: 55) continuous to state that research is the part of science which is learning how to find the correct truth. The active procedure to search the truth of philosophy is known as epistemological philosophy. The truth quality reached from knowledge directly concerned with its active procedure quality.

2. Design and Methodology

As a tool, method is functioned to simplify problems. Classification, description, comparation, sampling, induction and deduction, explanation, and interpretation qualitative and quantitative, are a number of general methods in every field of study. The purposed procedure in methodology is happened since the researcher interested in certain object, arranging proposal, building concept and model; formulate hypothesis and problems, conducting theoretical trial, analyzing data, and finally concluding. Methodology clearly implicates method. But methodology is not a bunch of methods and not description of methods. The difference between science and humanities is not because the difference of methods but because paradigm and methodology differences.

Qualitative research also generally emphasizes the importance of examining and interpreting observable phenomena *in context.* These contexts tend to be naturally occurring ones, which in applied linguistics might include language testing sessions, classrooms, courtrooms, or job interviews. Although these settings may not seem very natural, the principle is that they were not arranged for research purposes alone; they are part of people's regular activities (Duff, Patricia A. *Case Study Research in Applied Linguistics*. Taylor & Francis Group, LLC, 2008: 30).

Generally, if students' theses have formed critique, then the writing comes from objective approach. Research opportunity may appear in this approach. Literary study field of this approach is divided into intrinsic and extrinsic. The most possible writing of theses is literary critic shaped in intrinsic form. The theories of structuralism, formalism, Marxism, feminism, etc., are based on text and world in a text. Then, student writing has a form, nature, and function as literary critic. In other word, intrinsic study must be tangible in literary critic.

If only then, the research in this approach and its method is called as literary research, the method and qualitative research can be chosen. Literary theory development history drawn from Wellek and Warren (1962: 10) gives the potentiality of literary theory to intensify the concept, principle, and category. Meanwhile, literary

critic intensifies value and literary history on their development process.

3. Findings and Discussion

As the result of a product, a thesis is written based on conventioned rules made by the faculty members (the university) on order to standardize the thesis both the content—depends on the major of the study—and the use of research methods for all major. Since a university is a formal education, the university issues one official reference book as a guide on how to write academic writing including undergraduate thesis.

Writing a thesis is one of requirements before the students graduate from the university. For the reason that university keep standard of academic writing, the university publishes a guide book to be used by all major in a university level. The following is the university's academic writing guide that officially treated to all program in Sunan Gunung Djati state Islamic university.

> *Rencana penelitian memuat unsur-unsur rancangan penelitian yang terdiri atas: Judul, Latar Belakang Masalah, Perumusan Masalah Penelitian, Tujuan dan Kegunaan Penelitian, Kerangka Pemikiran, Hipotesis (untuk penelitian kuantitatif),* ***Metodologi Penelitian****, Kajian Pustaka dan Hasil Penelitian yang Relevan serta Daftar Pustaka (Pedoman Penulisan Skripsi, Tesis dan Disertasi UIN, 2010:13).*

As an official main source of reference to conduct research, all students have to refer to this university's writing academic guide. Therefore, the students in all major in university mention research method in writing their theses including English literature students in writing their theses. Although students' theses are in form of critique, they still use research method derived not from the theory of literature they use.

The research methodology as guided by the university is written as follow.

> *Metode adalah cara kerja pikiran dalam memahami suatu obyek, di dalamnya terkandung cara teknis bagaimana mengisi atau melakukan hasil dari pemahaman itu. Metode penelitian juga dapat bermakna prosedur (tahapan kerja) baku yang dipandang paling efektif untuk memecahkan suatu masalah pada bidang tertentu. Oleh karena itu, metode penelitian hendaknya disesuaikan dengan karakteristik masalah penelitian, tujuan penelitian, dan kerangka pemikiran. Langkah-langkah penelitian disebut juga metode penelitian atau prosedur penelitian (Pedoman Penulisan Skripsi, Tesis dan Disertasi UIN, 2010:18).*

In this academic writing guidebook, it is clear then that a method to be used in the thesis must be appropriate to solve the problems. It also means that the method in the thesis describes the real procedure of how to collect and analyze the data. But the problem is that there is no standard method to be used to analyze a literary work that is standardized by the university.

It is reasonable because the university guides and limits the methodology as follow.

> *Pola umum metodologi penelitian sekurang-kurangnya membicarakan empat hal pokok: penentuan metode penelitian dan jenis data (termasuk kaitannya dengan pendekatan penelitian), sumber data, teknik pengumpulan data, serta cara pengolahan dan analisis data. Pada penelitian kuantitatif dapat ditambah dengan prosedur serta teknik pemeriksaan dan uji keabsahan data. Uraian mengenai langkah-langkah atau metode penelitian adalah sebagai berikut.*

It means that all undergraduate theses, including undergraduate English literature theses must follow this guide by mentioning the method of research, the data, and source of data, technique of collecting data and technique of analyzing data. This rule actually can be treated to most of undergraduate theses but not for English literature program because the method to be used in analyzing a literary work is different from other research. The method to be used in analyzing the literary work varied depends on theory used in the thesis writing.

References

[1]. Alwasilah, A. Chaedar. 2007. Language, Culture, and Education: A Portrait of Contemporary Indonesia. Third Edition. Bandung: CV Andira.

[2]. Barry, Peter, 2002, Beginning Theory: an Introduction to Literary & Cultural Theory, Manchester: Manchester University Press.

[3]. Berg, Bruce L., 2007, Qualitative Research Method for Social Sciences, Boston: Pearson

[4]. Canagarajah, A. Suresh, 2002, Critical Academic Writing and Multilingual Students, United States: The University of Michigan Press.

[5]. Creswell, John W. 1998. Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing among Five Traditions. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

[6]. Eagleton, Terry, 1983, Literary Theory, Oxford: Basil Blackwell

[7]. Endraswara, Suwardi, 2008, Metodologi Penelitian Sastra, Yogyakarta: PT Media Pressindo.

[8]. Emilia, Emi, 2008, Menulis Tesis dan Disertasi, Bandung: Alfabeta.

[9]. Emilia, Emi. 2005. "A Critical Genre-Based Approach to Teaching Academic Writing in a Tertiary EFL Context in Indonesia." An Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation. Melbourne: Department of Language, Literacy and Arts Education, Faculty of Education, the University of Melbourne.

[10]. Fokkema, D. W., 1998, Teori Sastra Abad kedua puluh, Jakarta: Gramedia

[11]. Hatch, Amos. 2002. Doing Qualitative Research in Education Settings. New York: State University of New York.

[12]. Hyland K., 2000, Disciplinary discourses: Social interactions in academic writing, Singapore, Pearson Education Limited.

[13]. Jabrohim (Ed.), 2000, Metodologi Penelitian Sastra. Yogyakarta: PT Hanindita Graha Widya.

[14]. Mahsun, 2005, Metode Penelitian Bahasa, Jakarta: Rajawali

[15]. Maxwell, Joseph A. 1996. Qualitative Research Design: An Interactive Approach. Applied Social Research Methods Series, Volume 41. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

[16]. Nealon, Jeffrey & Giroux, Susan Searls, 2003, The theory toolbox, USA: Rowman & Littlefield publishers

[17]. Pradopo, Rahmat Djoko, 1995, Beberapa Teori Sastra, Metode Kritik dan Penerapannya, Jogjakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.

[18]. Ratna, Nyoman Kutha, 2007, Teori, Metode dan Teknik Penelitian Sastra, Jogjakarta: Pustaka Pelajar

[19]. Semi, Atar, 1993, Metode Penelitian Sastra, Bandung: Angkasa.

[20]. Silverman, David, 1993, Interpreting Qualitative Data, California: Sage Publication.

[21]. Silverman, David. 2005. Doing Qualitative Research. Second Edition. London: SAGE Publications.

[22]. Simon & Schuster, 1966, How to analyze fiction, USA: Monarch Press.

[23]. Swales, J., and Feak, C., 1994, Academic writing for graduate students: A course for nonnative speakers of English, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

[24]. UPI, 2007, Pedoman Penulisan Karya Ilmiah, Bandung.

[25]. Watson, George, 1986, The Literary Ctitics London: The Hogarts Press.

[26]. Wellek and Warren, 1978, Theory of Literature, England: Penguin Book.