Enhancing Students' Writing Achievement by Applying Sociogram

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Abstrak: Sosiogram adalah media visual yang menggambarkan hubungan dan interaksi yang terjadi antara karakter satu dengan karakter lainnya. Media visual ini dapat membantu siswa dalam menulis cerita dengan lebih mudah. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan dan mengkaji Sociogram dalam meningkatkan prestasi menulis siswa melalui tinjauan pendapat para ahli dan hasil penelitian terdahulu mengenai definisi dan manfaat Sociogram. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Sociogram merupakan media yang efektif dan dapat meningkatkan prestasi menulis siswa dalam hal motivasi, literasi, kreativitas, dan berpikir kritis. Sociogram juga dapat digunakan untuk mengembangkan kreativitas siswa dalam membuat cerita, terutama untuk mendukung tulisan mereka. Untuk menulis dengan baik, siswa harus meningkatkan pengetahuan mereka tentang kosakata, tata bahasa, dan komponen-komponen lain dalam menulis. Sosiogram sangat penting karena memberikan siswa untuk memahami hubungan antara setiap karakter dalam sebuah cerita, mempertimbangkan karakter utama dan keselarasan mereka satu sama lain, dan karakter minor.

Kata kunci: Kemampuan Menulis, Sociogram, Media Pembelajaran

Abstract: *Sociogram is a visual medium that illustrates the relationships and interactions that exist between characters and other characters. These visuals could assist students in writing stories more easily. The aims of this study are to describe and review Sociogram in enhancing students' writing achievement through a review of experts' opinions and the results of previous research on the definition and benefits of Sociogram. The findings of the study show that Sociogram were effective media and could enhance students' writing achievement regarding their motivation, literacy, creativity, and critical thinking. Sociogram also be used to develop students creativity in making stories, especially to support their writing. To write properly, students should improve their knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, and other components of writing. The sociogram is significant because it provides learners to understand the relationship between each character in a story, consider the primary character and their alignment with each other, and minor characters.*

Keywords: Writing Achievement, Sociogram, Learning Media

INTRODUCTION

Writing is the process of expressing a person's thoughts, ideas, and feelings in written language. In an additional meaning, writing is an activity that involves expressing thoughts and feelings in the form of writing, which is intended to be understood by the reader and acts as an indirect mode of communication. According to Widodo (2006) state that, "Writing is used not only for communication, but also for learning, thinking, and idea generation." Mastering writing necessitates the application of metacognitive and cognitive abilities, which implies that learners must structure their writing goals and employ supporting materials as needed throughout the process.

Writing allows students to think about, changes, and transform concepts while also reflecting on their previous knowledge, opinions, and confusions in written form (Troia, 2014). Through writing can allows the students to express their feelings, explain something, discuss an issue, convey a point of view, and share their experiences. In addition, Fitriyeni and Soghiro (2020) state that Writing is a process of encoding (putting your message into words) done with the reader in mind. To avoid communication issues, consider using the appropriate terms while encoding the message in textual form. Writing is essential for communicating the message and can be improved with practice (Klimova, 2013).

Writing is one of the most difficult skills. According to Saragih, Silalahi, & Pardede (2014) numerous learners have difficulty writing. The first difficulty lies in the students' writing is not understandable since some of the composition is irrelevant to the topic, and ideas and sentences are not well arranged. Other problems is that the students lack motivation and are uninterested in completing the work because the writing tasks are uninteresting.

In addition, writing is a challenging activity and a difficult assignment if the writer lacks a large number of thoughts. It is not simple because the process of writing demands significant intellectual talents. (Karim and Mursitama, 2015). Widyanita (2017) said that learning writing skills is as tough as teaching them. It is because, when writing, the writer must pay great attention to certain aspects such as grammar, content, vocabulary, punctuation, and sentence structure. Writing is a difficult activity that requires several steps during the process. There are four steps during the writing process as stated by Harmer (2004) namely planning, drafting, editing, and final draft. We can see from that procedure that writing is not an instant activity, which is why mastering writing skills is difficult for students, and students must practice extensively by following several steps in order to develop their writing skills. To overcome the issue, teachers and lecturers must employ appropriate approaches or instructional material to increase students' attention and motivation when learning to write.

Rafika (2018) argue that sociogram can be used in developing students creativity in writing to make a story, especially to support students' writing ability. According to Pratama (2015), using a sociogram is necessary because it allows students to understand the interaction between each character in a story, think about the lead character, and consider their alignment with each other and with lesser characters. Furthermore, sociogram can create a graphic organizer that depicts the relationships between characters in narrative text. Using sociogram can help the students write the story in narrative text. Fraenkel (2012), sociogram is a visualization, commonly in the form of arrows, of the decisions people make about the others with whom they interact. Sociogram serve as simple visual illustrations that help people understand the underlying network infromation (Huang, Hong, & Eades, 2007).

Ruben (2018) state that some advantages of using sociogram in writing: 1) Can be used to assess students' understanding of character relationships in a novel or to map social interactions within a group, make it easier to write the story. 2) Can help students better understand the relationships between characters in a story. 3) The use of sociogram can create students' imagination and make them more creative in writing.

Based on the fact above, the writer would like to analyze and review sociogram through experts' opinion and the result of previous research on definition and benefits of sociogram in enhancing students' writing achievement.

METHOD

The present research study was carried out as library research, using George's model of library research, which relies on the findings of previous studies and expert opinions to answer the research questions (George, 2008). The present research was carried out using online databases such as Google Scholar, Sage Journal, Taylor & Francis, Semantic Scholar, and Cambridge for library research. These databases generated relevant sources such as a book, journal papers, and website articles. The keywords used to retrieve the books and articles were: the using of sociogram in writing, sociogram, social network analysis in sociogram, and etc. These sources' arguments, research findings, statements, and recommendations served as data for answering the present study's research questions about procedures and the benefits of using Sociogram.

However, considering the importance of reviewing the relevance of Sociogram in the present contexts, the present study included articles published from 2007 to 2019. There are eleven articles were selected from these processes to be included in the inclusion/exclusion process that evaluates the relevance of the sources for answering the present study's research questions. After the inclusion/exclusion process, eleven articles were established as the data sources for the present study, with eleven of the articles published from 2007 to 2019.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Sociogram: Definition and Characteristics

A sociogram is a visual representation of the characters' connections in a story. Students utilize symbols, images, colors, size, distance, and lines to signify the quality of relationships, the importance of characters, tone, motive, and other aspects about the cast of characters. This promotes higher order thinking (Sobieski and Dell'Angelo, 2019). Furthermore, Hartati (2016) state that sociogram like maps or graphic images, are used to design relationships between content in a component. Sociograms force pupils to consider the relationships throughout characters and assist readers in understanding those relationships.

According to Royse, Nolan, and Hoffman (2020), sociogram can be used as a novel technique to characterize what happens during information sharing at the point of care and to identify the nature of communication between team members. Daily huddles with team members on the front lines of patient care allow them to share information, requests, and questions while also updating shared mental models to accomplish team objectives.

Sociogram can be used during the writing process to assist students comprehend character relationships, as well as the general tone, motive, and other facts about the cast of characters (Hollander, 2012). By using sociogram, the students promote high-

order thinking through symbols, colors, size, and lines between the relationship of each characters. Students can easily write the story in term narrative text if they understand the relationship of all the characters. Following the example of Sociogram (Pratama, 2015).
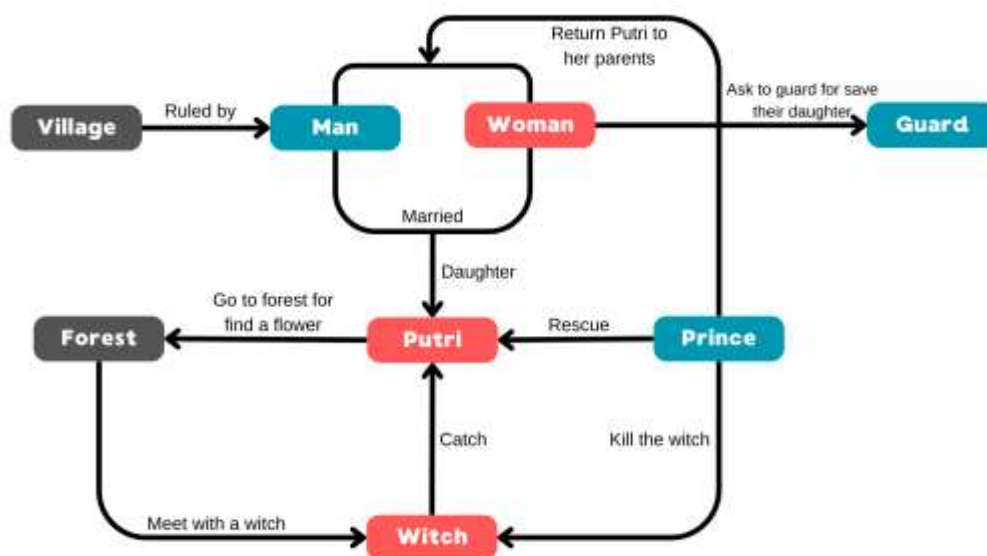

Figure 1. Sociogram Process

From the example of the sociogram above, it can be seen and presented that the sociogram presents the relationships and interactions that occur in characters with other supporting characters. With sociogram media, it can make it easier for students to make paragraphs in the form of narrative text, because sociograms have provided a series of relationships and events that occur with these characters.

The Benefits of Sociogram in Writing Skill

This study's reviews of appropriate information resulted in a summary of the benefits of Sociogram, as advocated by experts and supported by past research. Among the seven sources examined in this study, all argue for the numerous advantages of Sociogram on students' writing skills. Five of the seven sources analyzed in this study argue that sociograms have a considerable impact on students' writing achievements.

The study using sociogram of Pratama (2015) claim that There was a substantial difference in writing and speaking achievements after students were taught with Sociogram, as well as a significant difference between students who were taught with Sociogram and those who were not. Students that were taught with Sociogram outperformed their peers in writing and speaking.

In addition, This study found that students were open to receiving new media to help them improve their writing and speaking skills in narrative text. The medium was simple to learn and helped them to become more critical, increase higher-order thinking, and understand the relationships between characters by employing sociogram. From the result of this study, it can showed a significant theory of sociogram, Hollander (2008) state that "by using sociogram, the students promote high-order thinking through symbols, colors, size, and lines between the relationship of each characters.

Students can easily write the story in term narrative text if they understand the relationship of all the characters". Pratama (2015) concluded that Sociogram increased students writing and speaking skills. Furthermore, students' writing and speaking abilities will naturally increase if the teacher teaches them using some good media, one of which is Sociogram, which helps students understand the link between characters in narrative text teaching and learning.

As argued by Novarita (2015) the students might work alone to write an effective paragraph. Students might design own sociograms using character photos and word cards. Sociograms can be used to assist students analyze power dynamics implicit in nonfiction texts such as newspaper reports and feature pieces, in addition to writing a strong paragraph.

The efficiency of sociogram as a tool for understanding the tale and attracting students' attention by encouraging students to be more creative in the narrative text by investigating the relationships between the characters, plot, and how they interact to one another. The usage of sociogram is to be able to help students succeed because it may build the students' imagination and make them more creative in constructing their tale and making the students more creative in the narrative text (Fitri, 2018).

From several of the studies' findings above, maintain that the main benefits of sociogram is for improving students' writing skills. There are four five studies observed that argue for the benefit and important of sociogram to promote students' critical thinking and creativity in write a story, sociogram can motivate the students lo learn writing a good paragraphs.

CONCLUSION

From the findings and discussions above, it can be concluded that sociogram has been deemed an effective and excellent media for teaching writing to students. The sociogram as media it can be used for enhancing students' writing achievement through the visual that representation of relationship and interaction among the characters. Experts and previous research haves argued that this teaching media positively impacts the students' writing achievement, as well following elements of writing such as vocabulary, grammar, content, mechanics, and language use. And also sociogram can increase the students' motivation, critical thinking, and creativity in during writing process. In addition, sociogram can be one of the best alternatives for media in learning English especially writing narrative text. Considering the benefits of sociogram for students range from building a foundation for their future development in writing English as well as for developing their imagination, critical thinking, and creativity. Sociogram is an effective media for teaching and learning English for students in write a good story of term nrarrative text.

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