

## READING REVIEW TEXT NOVEL “SENGSARA MEMBAWA NIKMAT” BY STUDENTS OF ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY OF POTENSI UTAMA MEDAN

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### ABSTRACT

*The aim of this research is to determine the extent of the ability of the students of Education English Department at University of Potensi Utama Medan to review and analyze a novel with the entitled “Sengsara Membawa Nikmat” created by Tulis Sutan Sati. This research is Research Data which will be carried out to determine the extent students’ ability to review and analyze the novel. The research subjects were 4<sup>th</sup> semester of the students of English Education Department, University of Potensi Utama Medan, which is totaling number were 44 students. The objectives of the research were: a) Cultivating the students’ interest to read and analyze the novel which is a Literary Work that may have been forgotten and abandoned, b) to give criticism and suggestions for the novel to the general public which has been forgotten by many young generations now, c) as a learning model of reading comprehension. From the aspects that the researchers examined (aspects of the structure), students can conclude that they has the ability to write structures classified as good. But it should be improved in all aspects.*

**Keywords:** reading, review text, novel “Sengsara Membawa Nikmat”

### INTRODUCTION

To improve and develop the students’ competency in the field of English education, there are a number of courses offered including Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing. The course is taught to all students to improve their skills which can eventually develop their competencies in the field of English education. After observing for several years, it turns out that students’ abilities in reading are not sufficient. This evidence is reinforced by the lack of interest of the students who take Reading as a topic of study in the preparation of thesis, especially the classic novel.

The students’ interest in reading is quite low considering that reading has the characteristics and elements that are not the same as what other subjects have. Besides that because of the short and dense nature of Reading requires the reader to be truly selective in choosing diction, the use of punctuation. This limited space forces the students to use the words as effectively as possible and sometimes there is repeating words. Moreover, when the students review an old literary work which might not attracted the students’ intention to review it.

Reading is a complex, directed, interactive, comprehensive, flexible activity which requires a

lot of time and resources to develop. Speed reading, it means that the reader should maintain the flow of information at a level of sufficient to make connection and important conclusions to comprehension the reading. Duffy (2009, p.27) stated “Comprehension is the essence of reading because the goal of written language is communication of messages. If we do not understand the message, we are not reading”. Therefore, comprehension is the important aspect of reading.

Reading comprehension is an important skill which should be mastered in English subjects by students. For further in learning reading in advance of English education, the ability that needs to be mastered by students is the ability of reading genre text. But in fact, the students’ ability to read the genre text is relatively low. Students often find that it is difficult to recognize the types of genre text. It can be seen from the results of the reading test on each test where students cannot analyze the text being tested. It happened because learning reading which is given is not reviewed in more detail.

Novel and short stories are two forms of literature which are also called fiction. In fact, in its later development, novels were considered

synonymous with fiction. Thus, the definition of fiction as stated above also applies to novels. The name of novel in English, and this is what later entered Indonesia — are from the Italian novella (which is in German: novelle). Sudjiman (1998: 53) says that novels are imaginary prose that presents characters and displays a series of events and structured settings. Novels as imaginative works express deep human aspects and present them subtly. The novel is also an art form that studies and examines aspects of life and good moral values in this life and directs the reader to noble character.

To answer the problem of this research, it will be conducted with the data research where the students must review literary works in the form of novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” using Review Text. The students must analyze the important points in the novel with their own thoughts after reading the literature. In order to focus of this study, it is necessary to determine the scope and limitations of this research. This research is directed at the activity of reading several texts and analyzing the text, so that it is expected to be able to understand other types of Reading Text.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

### The Novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*”

“*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” is a novel written by *Tulis Sutan Sati* which was first published in 1929. The novel was published by *Balai Pustaka* as a novel that is considered to meet *Balai Pustaka* criteria. With a background in Minangkabau culture, this literary work revolves around the wandering of a main character named *Midun*. The odyssey described is quite realistic and is not fixed in the Sumatra region but also reaches the island of Java.

This novel tells the story of *Midun*'s trials and lives problem. That problem was none other than a nephew of the ruler in His village is *Kacak*. *Kacak* really hated *Midun* because of his beauty and his behavior. *Kacak* hopes people can like him like they respect to *Midun*. But because of *Kacak*'s attitude so insolent, the villagers hated *Kacak*. This makes *Kacak* became jealous and vengeful towards *Midun*, so he tried constantly harmful *Midun*. With patience and sincerity, finally *Midun* can get out of his problem and get a better life. In the end *Midun* gets all happiness as his patience, hard work, and honesty that he has been held so far. Meanwhile, *Kacak* precisely were arrested by the police for misusing his position.

### Review text

Review text is a text which works to weigh, assess and submit criticism of the work or events that are reviewed (Gerot & Wignell, 1994; Hyland & Diani, 2009). Review text is a text to re-explain a product, both real, such as: the latest automotive products, as well as un-real, such as: the latest films, discussions of prominent figures and other things that are popular in the community. It was also stated that review text must be related to products that really exist in the real world, not just narratives with the theme of ordinary imagination. Review text is one of the types of English text (genre) that is intended to review a work in the form of films, books, objects, etc. to find out the quality, strengths and weaknesses of the work that is intended for the audience or the reader. The focus of the review text was the novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” created by *Tulis Sutan Sati*.

### Purpose of review text

The communicative purpose of review text is to critique events or works of art for the general audience or listeners, such as films, shows, books, etc. It turns out that review text can function as a critic of art work, an event for a public audience. (to provide criticism of a work of art, or other for the general public). Another unique feature of studying review text is that we can improve the ability to present something. Because in the review text the author is required to explain something as detailed as possible with a description of the advantages of something which is explained.

### Generic Structure of Review Text

#### 1. Introduction

Like other types of English genre text, in the first paragraph of review text contains with an overview of a work or object to be reviewed. The common description of the work or object can be form of names, uses and etc.

#### 2. Evaluation

It is provided an overview of the details of a work or object r that is being reviewed, it can be parts of work or object, the uniqueness and quality. In this evaluation, it usually consists of more than one evaluation.

#### 3. Interpretation

In this part, the writer gave his own point of view about the work object which he reviews. In this section, the writer also writes in what part of the work or object is valuable or in

what part of the work or object is less in value.

#### 4. Summary

The writer gives a conclusion to the reader about the work or object that has been reviewed.

#### Language Feature of Review Text

In Review Text there are several linguistic features as follows:

- a. Focus on a work of art/ literature (books, films, products, etc.)
- b. Review text is written by using present tense forms.
- c. In it is often found adjective because it explains a work (good, bad, excellent, great, etc.)
- d. Sometimes using clauses that are quite long.
- e. Contains proverbs or analogies.

#### RESEARCH METHOD

This type of research is descriptive qualitative using content analysis. This research is a library research. The data source of this research is in the form of a written document in the form of novel of "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat" written by *Tulis Sutan Sati*, the twentieth print of 2008 published by the publisher Balai Pustaka, Jakarta. This novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat" was first published in 1929. The qualitative descriptive approach in this study was a research procedure with the results of a descriptive data presentation in the form of the author's speech in from the novel

Qualitative researchers seek illumination, understanding and extrapolation to similar situation (Hoepfl, 1997). Ary, Jacob & Razaviah (1979: 295) state that descriptive research studies are designed to obtain the information concerning the current status of phenomena. The object of this research is the fourth semester students of English Education Department at University of Potensi Utama Medan. The steps of this research are reading the novel first and then analyzing the Generic Structure Review Text of the novel *Passion Bringing Favors*. And at the ends with review the novel after analyzing the Generic Structure of the novel.

Data collection is done by reading and note taking techniques. Reading and note-taking techniques are techniques used to uncover a problem that is contained in a reading or discourse. Initially the entire reading of the novel was carried out in order to find out the general

identification through this technique, all forms of language used in the novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat" which was written by *Tulis Sutan Sati* are read carefully to determine the Generic Structure of Review Text. Reading activities are also carried out recording activities to document the data obtained.

The technical steps of the activity are as follows.

1. Read carefully, accurate, and read repeatedly of the entire contents of the novel which is selected as the focus of the study.
2. Describe all the data that has been obtained from the novel.
3. Analyzing the Generic Structure of Review Text of the Novel selected as the focus of the study.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

##### Findings

Based on the research of the students' test, the ability of Reading Review text of the students of English Education Department at University of Potensi Utama was seen from the ability to analyze:

1. Carefully, accurate, and read repeatedly the entire contents of the novel

In the first meeting, the researchers instructed students to read the novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat" first. The students were given one week to read the novel. Within one week, students were required to have finished reading the novel by understanding the core story of the novel.

2. Describe all the data that has been obtained from the novel.

After one week given by the researchers to students in reading the novel, at the second meeting researchers conducted a simple test of students about the content of stories from novels that had been read by students within one week. The test was given in the form of regarding

- To what extent the students comprehension about the novels "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat".
- Characters which were told from the novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat".
- Learning what can be learned from the novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat".

This test is conducted to determine the extent to which students have read the novel and understand the essence of the story of the novel. Therefore, the data can be taken to

analyze the novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” in the form of Review Text.

3. Analyzing the Generic Structure Review Text of the Novel selected as the focus of the study

The first meeting the researchers gave the novel as reference of review text with explaining in a brief about the content of the novel. At the second meeting, the researchers conveyed the purpose and language features of the review text. At the third meeting, the researchers taught the analysis of generic structure, rules and the content or meaning of the novel. Next, the fourth meeting was conducted a test that was pleasing with the novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*”. Students must analyze the novel starting from the goal of the novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” to the reader, Generic Structure and the language features of the novel. All tests given by the researchers and must be answered by students in English.

The following table was presented the students' test in the form of a grade scores for English Education morning and afternoon class students.

**Table 1. The Score in Writing Review Text of English department students of morning class**

No	Score	Number of Students	Total score
1.	100	0	0
2.	90	3	270
3.	80	9	720
4.	70	9	630
5.	60	5	300
<b>Total</b>			<b>1920</b>
<b>Percentage</b>			<b>73.85</b>

Based on table 1., it can be described that of the number of students of English Education morning class was 26 students in where the score of the ability of students in writing the review text of Novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” was described as follows: none of the students got a score of 100, 3 students got value of 90, 9 students got 80, 9 students get 70, and 5 students got a score 60. From the number of students 26, they obtained an average value 73.85.

**Table 2. The Score in Writing Review Text of English Department students of afternoon class**

No	Score	Number of Students	Total score
1.	100	0	0
2.	90	1	90

3.	80	5	400
4.	70	9	630
5.	60	3	180
<b>Total</b>			<b>1300</b>
<b>Percentage</b>			<b>72.22</b>

Based on table 2., it can be described that of the number of students of English Education afternoon class was 18 students in where the score of the ability of students in writing the review text of Novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” was described as follows: none of the students got a score of 100, 1 students got value of 90, 5 students got 80, 9 students get 70, and 3 students got a score 60. From the number of students 18, they obtained an average value 72.22

**Table 3. The ability of the students' writing of novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” created by Tulis Sutan Sati**

No	Score	Number of Students	Total Score
1.	100	0	0
2.	90	4	360
3.	80	14	1120
4.	70	18	1260
5.	60	8	480
<b>Total</b>			<b>3220</b>
<b>Average Score</b>			<b>73.18</b>

Based on table 3., it could be described that of the number of students with different classes was 44 and they obtained a score of the ability of the students to write the review text was described as follows: no one could get a score of 100, 4 students got value of 90, 14 students got 80, 18 students got 70, 8 students get a score 60, from the number of students 44 they obtained an average value 73.18.

## Discussion

Based on the results of a research test, the assessment of the students' ability of English Education Department at University of Potensi Utama in reviewing the novels of “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*” which was conducted by the researchers obtained many obstacles, especially the students themselves. The obstacles themselves are

### 1. Lack of Student interest

Based on the results of tests that were tested on students in reviewing the novel “*Sengsara Membawa Nikmat*”, students were less able to comprehend how to review the novel because of the lack of student interest in reading the novel. This is proven by the lack

of vocabulary that can be explored by students when reviewing the novel. Although the score could be categorized good, but for English students, that score was less.

## 2. Difficulties in understanding the novel

Novels are one of the media to support in learning activities, because novels are a forum which facilitates the students to comprehend the learning material well and can attract the students' interest in reading novels that are one of the literary works. But in its implementation, actually students still could not comprehend the novel well because the language is convoluted so it is difficult to comprehend and there were a tendency to be lazy to read the novel due to the large number of pages.

## 3. The Students' Limited Vocabulary.

Based on the students' result of the test that had been carried out, almost students got difficult to express ideas in their own language. They are still confused about how to express ideas and arranged sentences in good English. This was due to the lack of mastery of vocabulary in English. Some students are still confused about how to arrange their sentences to become good and correct sentences.

## CONCLUSION

This research showed that the ability of students in writing review text of Novel "Sengsara Membawa Nikmat" was good. It could be concluded in the below of:

1. The ability of the students in writing structure of review text novel *Sengsara Membawa Nikmat* got an average value was 79.55 with category was good.
2. The ability of the students of morning class in writing review text novel *Sengsara Membawa Nikmat* got an average value was 73.85.
3. The ability of the students of afternoon class in writing review text novel *Sengsara Membawa Nikmat* got an average value was 72.22.
4. The ability of the students of morning class and afternoon class in writing review text novel *Sengsara Membawa Nikmat* got an average value was 73.18.

From the aspects that the researchers examined (aspects of the structure), students can conclude that they has the ability to write structures classified as good. But, for English students, the percentage score which was they

got was not guarantee they mastery of English. It should be more high percentage because they studied English every day in university.

Therefore, there is a support to encouragement from the reading lecturers to encourage the students' interest in reading and analyzing novels, as well as increasing students' vocabulary in English. Under these conditions, the effort made by the researchers was by the researchers give a brief summary of the novel in an interesting language and easy for students to comprehend. Therefore, students have stages in terms of reading the novel with a brief analysis provided by the researchers. To overcome this, further learning is needed about mastering vocabulary in English and need to practice continuously by giving reading test material to be able to improve mastery of English vocabulary

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