

# THE INFLUENCE OF COMIC STRIPS MEDIA IN TEACHING WRITING SKILL TO THE TENTH GRADE STUDENTS IN CIANJUR

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## Abstract

Writing is an important skill for students because it helps them in their life but sometime they have difficulties when they start to writing. Therefore, the teacher must be able to find and use the right strategies for teaching writing activity especially choosing teaching media. One of the media that can be used in teaching writing is comic strips. The objective of this research is to find out whether there is an influence of using comic strips media to improve writing skill in the tenth grade students. This research employed pre-experimental design and used test questions as the instrument. The sample was the tenth grade students in one of SMKN in Cianjur, consisting of 36 students. The research compared the mean of the pre-test and post-test to identify the influence of comic strips media in improving writing skill.

**Keywords:** Comic strips, Improving, Writing Skill

## INTRODUCTION

Writing skill is one of the four skills in English namely speaking, listening, reading and writing that must be mastered by students in learning English. (Blanchard et al., 1998) as cited in (Hidayah et al., 2019) state that learning to write in a new language is not always easy. There are many things that students must pay attention to. According to (Apsari, 2018) there are several components in writing that have to be considered including word choice, use of appropriate grammar, syntax, mechanics, and organization of ideas into coherent and cohesive form.

Furthermore, (Scott, 1990: 69) as cited in (Yulianti et al., 2019) defines writing is an interesting activity. It is a useful, essential integral, enjoyable and gives advantages even though there are difficulties in writing. And also (Alves, 2008) as cited in (Farizi & Fauzyah, 2019) state that writing is the way of communication between the writer and the readers. Thus, it is important for students to learn writing.

In the preliminary observation, the researcher found that the students had problem when they started to writing. They felt confused and afraid of making mistakes even though they have not tried writing yet, they did not know where to start and end it. In addition (Lestari et al., 2019) states that students have some difficulties in writing such as lack of vocabulary and low motivation to write. Beside that, there are also word choice, incorrect grammar, poor organization, unstructured content, and mechanics (punctuation, capitalization and spelling). Therefore, it is important for teacher to find and use the right strategies in teaching especially the selection of teaching media.

Media refers to anything that carries information between a source and receiver and also considered as instructional system of teaching process. (Janah, 2016) as cited in (Herliana & Daniawati, 2018) explains that the tools for a learning event are very effective for the achievement of learning objective and will help teacher more creativity in deliver the materials more clearly and reach the goal of learning.

Comic strips is a comic that consist of several picture panels and containing text inscribed within “balloons” inside the picture frame, that are designed to be read as a narrative sequence. Comic strips is essentially a mass media, printed in magazine, a newspaper, and a book. It is an interesting story in form of pictures and texts as the complement. It often influences the students’ emotion and feeling while conceiving the story and developing their imagination because each comic strips has various stories such as tell about humor, mystery, adventure, action, love and so on. So comic strips can be used as media in teaching-learning.

(Swain, 1978) as cited in (Mahir & Ali, 2016) argues that comics are effective to be used as teaching materials in language classes as they do not refrain students from reading other materials and also comic spark laughter or amusement that will have great influence to attract students’ attention in learning activities. Through the teaching learning activities using the comic strips, students could express what they have seen, read and pour their ideas into writing.

**Picture 1.** Example of Comic Strips



## METHOD

The method that used in this research is quantitative research and pre-experimental research design conducted in one class. According to (Sugiyono, 2006:80) as cited in (Nuraeni & Lube, 2020) the purpose of experimental research is to find the cause-effect relationship among the variables in controlled condition. And the objective of this research is to find out whether there is an influence of using comic strips as media in improving writing skills. The tenth grade students in one of SMKN in Cianjur were the population of this research and the sample was class X RPL that consist of 36 students in the academic year of 2019/2020. The data was collected with the pretest (gave before the teaching process) and posttest (gave after the teaching process was done) as the instrument.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

In this part, the researcher used SPSS version 18 to answer whether the comic strips is effective to improve the tenth grade students' writing skill, with the title below:

**Table 1.** The result of Pre-test and Post-test

No	Name	Pre-test	Post-test
1	Student 1	35	70
2	Student 2	30	50
3	Student 3	66	70
4	Student 4	70	80
5	Student 5	66	75
6	Student 6	35	80
7	Student 7	30	60
8	Student 8	52	82
9	Student 9	35	75
10	Student 10	35	62
11	Student 11	75	77
12	Student 12	70	72
13	Student 13	55	62
14	Student 14	45	82
15	Student 15	52	62
16	Student 16	66	80
17	Student 17	30	62
18	Student 18	57	70
19	Student 19	57	75

20	Student 20	70	82
21	Student 21	82	90
22	Student 22	45	80
23	Student 23	57	80
24	Student 24	53	75
25	Student 25	32	70
26	Student 26	66	85
27	Student 27	58	90
28	Student 28	57	65
29	Student 29	62	70
30	Student 30	30	55
31	Student 31	50	75
32	Student 32	50	82
33	Student 33	66	75
34	Student 34	50	60
35	Student 35	40	55
36	Student 36	70	72

**Table 2.** Normality test**Tests of Normality**

	Kolmogorov-Smirnov <sup>a</sup>			Shapiro-Wilk		
	Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Pretest	.135	36	.097	.941	36	.057
Posttest	.131	36	.124	.962	36	.253

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction

Criteria:

If Sig &gt; 0.05

The sample was normal distribution.

The table shows that the Sig. of pre-test was 0.097 and the Sig. of post-test was 0.124. Both of these data were higher than 0.05, it can be conclude that the test has normal distribution.

**Table 3. Paired Samples Statistics**

Paired Samples Statistics					
		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	Pretest	52.75	36	14.810	2.468
	Posttest	72.42	36	9.898	1.650

We can see that the mean of pre-test was 52.75 and the mean of post-test was 72.42. The researcher continued to analyze paired samples test.

**Table 4. Paired Samples Test**

Paired Samples Test									
		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	Pretest - Posttest	-19.667	12.396	2.066	-23.861	-15.473	-9.519	35	.000

From the table shows that the significance value was 0.000 ( $p < 0.05$ ). So, the result of pre-test and post-test undergo significant changes. It means that comic strips media can improve students' writing skill.

## Discussion

The researcher used pre-experimental design conducted in one class with implementation of pre-test in the first meeting, treatment was given twice using comic strips media (the second and the third day) and the in the last meeting, the post-test was given. After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the data and it shows that there was a significant different of students achievement in pre-test and post-test. So, comic strips is an influence media to improve writing skill.

## CONCLUSION

The use of comic strips in teaching learning activity have contributed to build skill in writing and of course the teacher must select the comic strips that are suitable with the material and teaching learning objectives. Based on the result, the researcher conclude that the comic strips has positive influence in improving students' writing skill.

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