

ABSTRACT

Alfionita, Anti. (2023): A Narrative Inquiry of Undergraduate Students' Experiences and Challenges in Writing the Research Proposal

Writing is one of the most formidable skills; most people find it challenging to do in their native and foreign languages (Visser & Sukavatee, 2020). Many challenges prevail, especially in writing for scientific purposes. Students were hard to organize ideas that could be read by the reader, as convinced by Gibbons (2002). The topic of undergraduate students' challenges in writing the research proposal was selected since many students struggle in writing the research proposal. The purposes of this study are: (1) to portray the experiences in composing a research proposal, and (2) to identify undergraduate students' challenges and solutions to overcome the challenges in writing a research proposal.

The study employed a qualitative approach with a narrative inquiry design. To obtain the data, the writer carried out the questionnaires and interviews. Purposive sampling is used to select participants. The total number of participants in the questionnaire was 103 students of English Education year 2019, out of which 6 were chosen for in-depth interviews.

This study finds that the narrative inquiry of undergraduate students' experiences in writing the research proposal is needed to be improved in terms of: (1) Mentor-related challenges: build awareness of the importance of guidance between lecturers and students, (2) Student-related challenges: developing a good inner self as a researcher, and (3) Institution-related challenges: a) Develop writing and reading skills in research subjects such as generating ideas, understanding advanced words, grammar, and paraphrasing b) Dissemination of information about the proposal seminar.

This study offers valuable insights about students' challenges in writing the research proposal for future students and lecturers to enhance their skills by addressing the identified challenges.

Keywords: Students' Challenges, Writing the Research Proposal