



From Classroom to Peer Comment in Facebook: Bridging to Establish Learners' Literacy

Rita Inderawati Rudy

Sriwijaya University Palembang (Indonesia)

ritarudisaid@yahoo.com

Abstract

The phenomenon of using facebook widespread in Indonesia especially among learners. Almost every day everywhere every student has a face book that he/she will visit. They use it actively to comment, make friend, search friends or families, and chat. Based on the result of questionnaire distributed to the forth semester students of English study program of Sriwijaya University, it was found that 97% insisted that facebook is important for two reasons that it can be useful for making communication and developing writing ability.

During 2009-2010, the writer brought her lectures in the classroom into internet that is facebook. After lecturing for some meetings in Writing II course, she asked her students to send their works to a group composed by her in her facebook. The groups' names were A_Layo Writers and Bukit_Writers. In that groups, the students wrote their paragraphs toward a certain theme and they commented on each other. And it was her finding that most students really learnt how to write a good paragraph by reading and commenting on the peer writing. Another course was Literary Appreciation course. By following a set of questions established from reader response strategy posed by Beach and Marshall (1990), the fifth semester students responded some literary works and conventionally written in their workbooks. To discuss their appreciation, the writer asked them to post their work in the group in her facebook named Literary Appreciation about the Legend of Kemaro Island.

This paper elaborates the use of face book as a medium for the learners to present and comment on their opinion or piece of writing as a way of making use the social network in cyber and the implementation of ICT in teaching English literacy.