WRITING, APPROACHES, AND GENRES

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ABSTRACT

This article describes a brief description about writing, approach, genre, and writing genre. There are many classification of writing genres. The big genre category falls into fictional genre and non-fictional genre. There are more specific categories of writing genre as taken from many resources. It is expected that the readers of this article will be able to grasp understanding about writing and its genre in order to become a good reader or writer.

Keywords: writing, approach, genre, writing genre

ABSTRAK

Artikel ini mendeskripsikan secara singkat mengenai menulis, pendekatan, genre, dan genre dalam menulis. Ada banyak klasifikasi genre dalam menulis. Kategori besar genre yaitu genre fiksi dan genre non-fiksi. Kategori genre secara spesifik diambil dari berbagai sumber. Diharapkan dengan adanya artikel ini dapat membantu untuk memahami tentang menulis dan genre dalam menulis untuk menjadi pembaca atau penulis yang baik.

Kata kunci: menulis, pendekatan, genre, genre menulis

A. Introduction

What is genre? What is type of genre? What is genre in writing or writing genre? Is writing genre same as types of writing? Are genres the same or different with types of text in writing? Those questions come up in mind whenever it is needed to define the genres or types of writing as well as the examples. Writing and genre are two items closely related each other. When talking about writing, it needs to discuss about the genre, the writing genre or so called the types of writing genre.

In online resources, there are many webs provide information about this issue. More or less, each web elaborates almost the same information on the definition of writing, definition of genre, and types of writing genre. Printed books talking about writing based on the genre also published in vary to assist people who want to write and become authors. Understanding about genre is important for anyone in order to write a good written product.

B. Discussion

Writing and the Purpose of Writing

Writing is one of language skill which is defined by Brown (2001) in Ramadona, Zulkarnain, and Sihite (2021) as the graphic representation of spoken language, and that written performance is much like oral performance, the only difference lying in graphic instead of

auditory signals. While according to Muliati, Yundayani and Mawarni (2021) writing is one of the skills that should be mastered by someone who learns linguistics. In addition, Yunaika (2020) defines that writing is a communication activity that is conveying message in written form to other. Miliana (2018) also mentions that writing as a productive skill is focus on producing a language rather than receiving a language, which means writing, can represent someone's ideas through written text or concrete form of ideas.

Writing is often perceived as the most difficult language skill since it requires a higher level of productive language control than the other skill (Amalia, 2017). Writing also has a very complex process (Tanjung, Rahmawati, and Harahap, 2021).Writing skill is more complex and difficult than other skills to teach because it is not only requiring on grammatically and rhetorical devices but also on conceptual and judgment devices (Miliana, 2018). Zhang (2013) in Amalia (2017) states that productive modules such as speaking and writing are more difficult for learner. Thus, it can be said that writing as one of the language skills is considered to be difficult to master because it there is a complex process to accomplish.

The purpose of writing is different for each individual. As stated by Amalia (2017) the purpose of writing relies on how the writer expresses their meaning and what the text is discussing about. While Wiranata (2019) concludes that the purposes of writing are to express the idea into the concrete or visible and convey the message through the consideration written in order to make the reader understand. In addition, the purpose of writing depends on the type of genre since different genre will provide different way of writing, grammatical features, and generic structure.

Writing Approaches

A writing process approach requires the teachers give students greatly responsibility for and ownership of their learning and students make decisions about genre, topic, and collaborate as they write (Tanjung, Rahmawati, and Harahap, 2021).

Thus, in writing, the students are required to responsible for their choice of writing whether the types of writing, the selection of topic, and the way to unite them into one good coherence writing.

According to Tangpermpoon (2008), there are three characteristics of writing approach, namely product-based approach, process-based approach, and genre-based approach. She elaborated more that in product-based approach; there are various activities for lower level to higher level students such as the use of model paragraphs, sentence-combining and rhetorical pattern exercises that can raise students' awareness in writing. In process-based approach, there are processes that should be fulfilled from beginning to the end as actual work by the writer. She adopted the five-step writing process model of Herwins; they are 1) prewriting, in which teachers provide a writing task and help students to generate vocabulary and ideas and do not concern whether it is correct or appropriate in the first stage of writing by using different strategies like brainstorming, clustering, or discussion in classroom activities; 2) first draft composing, in which students use vocabulary and ideas they obtain from previous stage to express what they want to convey in their writing; 3) feedback, in which students receive comment from real audiences such as the writing teacher or their friends and move on to new ideas in another draft using the comment given; 4) second draft writing, in which students modify their previous draft by revising, adding, and rearranging ideas in accordance with the comment from teachers and friends; 5) proofreading is the final stage, in which students discover new ideas and language forms to express their ideas in writing and also focus on the appropriate use of vocabulary, layout, grammar, and mechanics. While in genre-based approach, students likely to engage in a specific various types of writing patterns such as business letter, academic report, or research paper and depends on the social and communicative purpose. She tends to follow the concept of English for Academic Purposes or English for Specific Purposes to define the concept of genre-based approach.

Genres and Writing Genres

Kamm (2023) writes the importance of genre that it provides reader to find the books of their flavours easily, helps authors to market their writing in accordance with the audience, reveals interesting things about the time and place a book was written. Article entitled "Genre and Medium" writes genre is a form of writing with set functions determined by its social need. For example, genres you may encounter regularly in the workplace include memos, business letters or official correspondence, meeting minutes, and social media posts. Online article entitled "What are 5 Genres of Writing?" writes genres of writing sometimes are known as types of writing or styles of writing. These genres of writing refer to the structure, tone, and purpose of the text amongst other characteristics. And it is different from literary genres, like fantasy or horror in order not to be confused with. From article entitled "Types of Writing Genres: A Short Guide" **genres** are the tool for creativity and provide various perspectives to tell your story in different ways. While **writing genre**, mostly called as **literary genre,** is a type of narrative that can be used or written for one purpose only to share emotions, ideas, and news with other people and **writing genre** is used to tell the story interestingly. In this article also are listed three types of writing genres.

1. **Professional Writing** (such as social media, business letter, memos, meeting minutes)
2. **Literary Writing** (such as mystery, literary nonfiction, horror, historical, romance, science fiction, magical realism, fantasy, dystopian, graphic fiction, short stories, tall tales)
3. **Academic Writing** (analytical writing, professional writing, argumentative writing).

In addition, there are also **types of writing style.** Here, writing style refers to the unique way of the authors by creating a style with the voice and tone to communicate with words in their text. The types of writing will vary depends on the audience whom the authors are writing for. Indeed, normally, authors maintain a cohesive w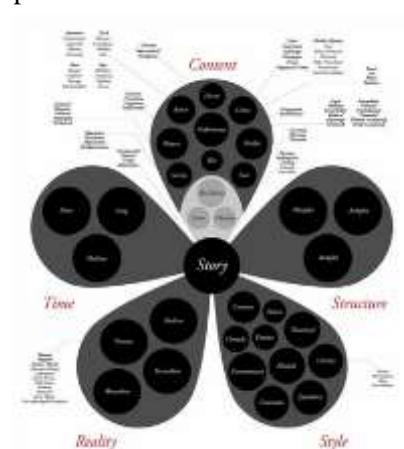riting style since each authors has their own style in writing which may different from one topic to another. There are 13 writing styles commonly used.

1. Narrative Writing
2. Expository Writing
3. Descriptive Writing
4. Persuasive Writing
5. Creative Writing
6. Technical Writing
7. Review Writing
8. Poetic Writing
9. Objective Writing
10. Subjective Writing
11. Academic Writing
12. Journalistic Writing
13. Business Writing

Kamm (2023) also provides some classification of genres usually wrote for books as follows.

1. Classics
2. Literary Fiction
3. Historical Fiction
4. Romance
5. Young Adult
6. Horror
7. Crime/Thriller
8. Science Fiction
9. Fantasy

Quoting from Story Grid, genres are broken into five clear categories called 5-Leaf Clover, namely time genre, structure genre, style genre, reality genre, content genre. These genres are used as a tool to define the genres of writing. Each genre is represented by one leave as shown in below picture.

Source: https://storygrid.com/genres-of-writing/ (for further information)

Pope (2021) classifies book genres into fiction and non-fiction.
List of fiction book genres:
1. Fantasy
2. Romance
3. Dystopian
4. Horror
5. Paranormal
6. Science Fiction
7. Adventure
8. Contemporary
9. Mystery
10. Thriller
11. Historical fiction
12. Children's

List of nonfiction book genres:
1. Memoir
2. Art
3. Development
4. Health
5. Travel
6. Humor
7. Families & Relationships
8. Cookbook
9. Self-help
10. Motivational
11. History
12. Guide / How-to

C. Conclusion

From above elaboration, it is clear that writing needs genre in order to assist readers understand the types of written product they read. Since there are various types of writing genres, authors will choose their own genres whenever they start to write and it will be different from one author to another. Readers as well will select their writing genres to read. Thus, being able to know writing genre is a way to understand the writings or texts we write or read.

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