

Abstract

Critical thinking is important skill for everyone including students. However, not all of educational institution applies critical thinking as one of the learning goal. This research is aimed at knowing the critical thinking-oriented activity applied in Basic Reading and Writing course at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta as well as the cognitive skill reached by the students in those critical thinking-oriented activities based on the students' perception.

This research used descriptive qualitative method. In this kind of qualitative research design, the researcher chose interview as the instrument to gather the data. In-depth interview was done to get a clearer data about the two research questions. There were six participants participating in this study. They were the students of English Education Department from batch 2014. Each three participants chosen were from different level of grade point average that has been taught by different lecturer. In analyzing the data, the researcher used three kinds of coding including open coding, axial coding and also selective coding to get the final categorization of the data. Before analyzing the data, the researcher had already done member checking to get the data validity.

The result of the research showed that EED UMY has implemented critical thinking-oriented activities including *self reflection* and *course reflection* to perform students' ability to evaluate, as well as *ultimate dream* to perform the students' ability

to make a plan as the level of *create*. However, There are many variety of the students' cognitive skill achievement including the ability to *remember, understand, apply, evaluate* and *create*. As the conclusion, this research found that writing course at English Education Department UMY had implemented critical thinking-oriented activities, but there were writing activities which were not critical thinking-oriented activity and not all students reached the intended skill of those critical thinking-oriented activities.

Keywords: critical thinking, critical thinking-oriented activity, writing activity, students' perception