



# Creative Writing Skills Through Suggestopedia Method

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**Abstract:** People consider that writing is the most important skill in learning English. It is because writing is one of the ways to transfer using to the language. But there are many problems in learning writing such as motivation, confidence, habit of the students, teaching method, material, etc. The most crucial problem is that the teaching method is not interesting. Based on that problem, the writer tries to offer the suggestopedia method to be applied in writing class. This method is good for writing class. It is because the purpose of the suggestopedia method is to release the mind of students from the negative belief. So that the learning process will be more fun and the students will be more relax during the class. In this paper, the discussion of what suggestopedia is and how it is applied in a writing class are explained in details.

**Keywords:** transfer, suggestopedia, learning process.

## Introduction

English is an international language. It is used by people to communicate to others from different countries. Based on that, it is very important to learn English in order to get closer with the world in the future.

Learning English cannot be separated from four skills, there are speaking, writing, listening and reading. "Speaking is a productive skill which is different in many ways, (Brown, 2000: 246). "Writing skill is a process of drafting, structuring, reviewing, focusing, and generating", (Harmer, 1998: 158). Listening is a kind of skill that especially important to obtain a good speaking habits and improves the pronunciation,

(Brown, 2000: 228). Reading in English is like reading in your native language (Brown, 2000). In the end of study the students are expected to master those four skills.

Among these four skills, people consider that the most important skill is writing. It is because of several reasons. The first reason is that writing is important in written communication. Most people spend a fair amount of time communicating via the written word whether you are messaging friends, writing to your parents, writing your assignment or writing your research. The second reason is that writing skill is important in career communication. Most of career communications are being handled online and in text. Even just applying for jobs usually requires a few different types of written communication, from filling out an application to writing a cover letter and drafting a resume. Considering that reason, writing skill is very important to be mastered well.

Learning writing is not such easy thing. There are many problems that influence the process of learning writing. The first problem is that students have less interest in writing. Many students don't have good feeling toward writing. They tend to don't care and don't concentrate during the class. The second problem is that students have less motivation. Some students are being lazy to attend writing class. They think that writing is not important for them. The third problem is that the students find it difficult to develop idea. In the writing process, some students feel difficult in developing idea, they are confused about what they are going to write. It is because they are less in reading. The fourth problem is that the students have less confidence in writing. Students do not have belief in their own ability. So, there are many problems that students and teachers face in writing class.

Considering that problem, the teacher should find an appropriate method to develop the students writing ability. One of the methods that teachers can use in writing class in order to develop the writing ability of the students is suggestopedia method. This method is applied in many foreign language teaching. "Suggestopedia, the application of the study of suggestion to pedagogy, has been developed to help students eliminate the feeling that they cannot be successful of the negative association they may have toward studying and, thus to help them overcome the barriers to learning" (Larsen-Freeman, 2000:73). This method concerns with the mental of the students. It focuses on how to make the students relax and fun in class. The set of the classroom is bright and colourful which is different from classroom in usual. This method also gives positive expectation of success, and uses varied method such as music, games and dramatized texts, etc. In short, suggestopedia method is an interesting way to develop the students' writing ability.

The intention of this paper are (1) to describe what suggestopedia method is, (2) to describe why suggestopedia is an appropriate method to develop the students' writing skill, (3) to explain the way of suggestopedia in developing the student's writing skill. In addition, at the end of the discussion, this paper will give example of classroom activities in order to give the readers clear explanation.

## **The Purpose of Suggestopedia Method**

The purpose of Suggestopedia method is to liberate the mind of students from the negative assumptions that have been established (Lozanov, 1978:252). Many students are affected by negative presumption. The presumption in question is negative sayings such as "learning is boring," "English grammar is difficult" and others. Presumption such as this will limit human potential. By replacing these negative presumption with the positive presumptions, we can utilize the massive human potential to learn.

## **The Principles of Suggestopedia Method**

Here are some principles of suggestopedia method, according to Larsen-Freeman (2000:81):

- i. The teacher goal is to accelerate the process by which students learn to use a foreign language for everyday communication.
- ii. The teacher is the authority in the classroom. The students trust the teacher so they feel more secure.
- iii. The characteristics of the teaching learning process are: a) The class is bright and cheerful. b) Students select target language names and chose new occupations. c) Using text or dialog in the target language and native language. d) The teacher presents the dialog during two concerts.
- iv. The teacher initiates interactions with the whole group of students and with individual right from the beginning of a language course. The students have more control of the target language and can respond more appropriately and even initiate interaction themselves.
- v. A great deal of attention is given to students' feelings in this method.
- vi. Language is the first of two planes in the two-plane process of communication. The culture which students learn concerns the everyday life of people who speak the language. vii. Vocabulary and communicatively are emphasized.
- viii. Native language is used when necessary.
- ix. Evaluation usually is conducted on students' normal in-class performance and not through formal tests.
- x. Errors are corrected gently, with teacher using a soft voice.

According to the principles, there are many rules in suggestopedia method. We can use this method in different skills of language as long as we consider the principles of the method.

## Advantages of Suggestopedia

In using suggestopedia method, there are many advantages that the teachers and students will get. First, by using suggestopedia method, students can lower their affective filter. Suggestopedia classes are held in ordinary rooms with comfortable chairs, a practice that may also help them relaxed. Teacher can do countless other things to lower the affective filter. Second, students remember best and are most influenced by information coming from an valid source. Third, it refers to the learning from two aspects. They are the conscious aspect and the subconscious one. Students can acquire the aim of teaching instruction from both direct instruction and environment in which the teaching takes place. The last advantage is that suggestopedia encourages the students to apply language more independently, takes more personal responsibility for their own learning and get more confidence. Peripheral information can also help encourage students to be more experimental, and look to sources other than the teacher for language input. For example, the students can make some sentences using the grammatical structure placed on the classroom's wall; describe a particular place in an English speaking country by looking at the poster on the wall, etc. When the students are successful in doing such self-activities, they will be more confident.

## Conclusion

This article has draw a picture of how suggestopedia is applied in writing class. In applying suggestopedia method there are many things that teacher should consider. It includes the class preparation, class activities and the way to assess.

Suggestopedia is a good method to develop the students' writing ability. However, it is not easy to apply it. The teacher has to be creative and expressive. The materials also have to be well-prepared. It is better if the teacher work in team so that there will be more idea to make the activities.

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