CHAPTER III

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES

3.1. Introduction

For about a month, the present writer conducted job training in Balai Bahasa Bandung as a reviewer. The present writer is interested in discuss a book review since the writer knows that it is very important in the educational field. However, it is not easy in making a book review. To solve it, strategies are necessary. There are two strategies that the present writer used in reviewing a book: reading and writing.

Reading becomes the first strategy in reviewing a book, because before reviewing we must understand first the whole contents of the book. This strategy will help the reviewer easier in handle the next process; that is writing process. While reading the writer has to mark the parts that will be quoted as the data: the important and interesting data based on the reviewer opinion.

In reading, the present writer used skimming method. Wiener Bazerman in his book which entitled Reading Skill Handbook said, "*Rapid reading for fact is called skimming. When skiming a paragraph or a page, you are searching quickly*

among sentences for the answer to some questions you have." Bazerman (1977) added that there are some steps in skimming.

There are:

1. Make sure that you know what information you are looking for. Ask yourself a question;
2. Move your eyes quickly from line to line and from sentence to sentence;
3. When you think you have found what you are looking for, stop;
4. Read slowly the part of the line or sentence that tells you what you want to know;
5. Think about the question you are trying to answer;
6. Does the information you have found answer the question? If not, quickly read passage again to look for the information you need;

In applying what Bazerman saying, there is an additional treatment when indigenous and foreign languages are involved in that review. It is realized that the involvement of indigenous and foreign languages may decrease the reading speed. However, there is no choice left. The present writer should figure out the meaning of that words before continuing reading.

Another strategy in reviewing a book is writing. Here are some strategies in writing based on the present writer's experiences:

1. Before beginning writing, make a few notes about the points that you think essential or interesting;
2. Find the strengths and weakness of the book. Make sure that the review is fair in determining the strengths and weakness of the book;

3. Include a statement of what the author has tried to do;
4. When hard to begin writing, find a good place to get a concentration and try to focus; and
5. Choose a proper word and write a good sentence as attractive as possible so that the reader interested in reading our review.

3.2. The Application of The Strategies

3.2.1. Reading

In reading, time is being the main problem. A lot of times are needed to read and understand the whole content of the book. In addition, the data below, Data 1, strongly inhibits the reading process because of the involvement of indigenous language, Bahasa Jawa. The present writer needed so much time to understand it, because it is required to be translated into Indonesia before into English. The writer used a lot of references, such as English dictionary, Indonesian dictionary, online dictionary to find out the proper meaning, and asking the native, especially the native of Jawa who is able to speak Javanese.

Data 1

Yen wis tinitah wong agung
Aja sira ganggung diri
Aja leket lan wong ala
Kang ala lakunireki
Nora wurug ajak-ajak
Satemah anunulari (Sudyarto, 2009:31)

The table below is the analysis of the data 1

Jawa	**Bahasa**	**English**
Yen wis tinitah wong agung	*Jika sudah jadi orang besar*	If you have been a great man
Aja sira ganggung diri	*Jangan membesar-besarkan diri*	Do not exaggerate yourself
Aja leket lan wong ala	*Jangan dekat dengan orang jahat*	Do not close to the wicked man
Kang ala lakunireki	*Yang jahat kelakuannya*	The wicked behavior
Nora wurug ajak-ajak	*Tidak urung ia mengajak jahat*	he invited you misbehave
Satemah anunulari	*Pasti menular kejahatannya*	Definitely the wickedness will infect

Data 2

> *"Gejala hidup, selain lahir dan tumbuh adalah juga berkembang. Bahasa kita juga terus berkembang, ada ujaran yang mengatakan "Ars longa vita brevis" (Sudyarto, 2009:42)*

"Ars longa vita brevis" is Latin utterance. The present writer needed an extra time to understand the meaning of the utterance. To find the proper meaning the present writer translated it first into English then to Bahasa by using the online dictionary.

The table below is the analysis of the data 2

Latin	**English**	**Bahasa**
Ars longa vita brevis	*Life is temporal, but language is everlasting*	*Hidup itu fana, tapi bahasa itu abadi*

3.2.2. Writing

Same as the reading process, the present writer also dealt with some problems in writing process. The present writer found difficulty in choosing a proper word to make the review more interesting to be read. To solve that problem, the present writer managed to read again the book and marked the parts which were considered to be important. Then, found a good place to get a concentration, finally managed to focus and began writing.

Data 3

> *"Lihatlah aliran air itu, siapa yang membuat air mengalir? Air selalu mengalir dari tempat yang lebih tinggi ke tempat yang lebih rendah,"ujar Sang Bengawan mengawali pembicaran, sambil terus melangkah diiringi kedua cantriknya di kiri dan kananya."*
> *"Bukankah kita harus meneruskan bicara soal bahasa, Guru?" ujar Tanana.*
> *"Betul. Maksudku, bahasa juga mengalir seperti air sungai. Bahasa turun dari nenek moyang sampai kepada kita. Akan menurun lagi ke generasi setelah kita.*

> *"Apakah bahasa itu tetap bahasa, tanpa perubahan, Guru? Tanya Tanpraka"*
> *"Bahasa mengalir seperti air sungai, bertumbuh, seperti pohon hayat."*
> *"Apakah bahasa bisa tercampur bahasa lain Mahaguru" tanya Tanpakra.*
> *"Tiap masyarakat bergaul dengan masyarakat lain. Bahasa pun bergaul dengan bahasa lain. Sanskrit menyebar ke dalam bahasa Jawa, Bali, Batak, Aceh, Nias, Bugis, Dayak dan sebagainya.*
> *"Bahasa sanskirt unggul benar sehingga begitu luas pengaruhnya? Tanya Tanana.*
> *"Bahasa Inggris unggul karena orang Inggris menguasai gelombang di seluruh samudra. Sanskirt unggul karena kekuatan agama yang dibawa agama itu. Bahasa Sanskirt adalah bahasa kitab suci. Bahasa latin, bahasa Arab juga mendapatkan kekuatan dari agama yang disampaikannya."*
> *"Apakah bahasa latin bisa dikatakan mati, Sang Bengawan?" tanya Tanpakra.*
> *"Bahasa dikatakan hidup, ketika masih digunakan penuturnya. Tetapi bahasa Latin karena kekuatan agama dan ilmu tidak kunjung mati. Kecuali seluruh manusia sudah mati."(Sudyarto, 2009:16)*

The data above is a part of the conversation between the Master and his follower. Since it is noticed that a book review should be brief, the present writer concludes the conversation as follow in the review:

> *"Percakapan-percakapan yang terjadi dalam cerita sangat mudah dipahami. Tidak hanya di pahami oleh kaum intelek tetapi oleh semua lapisan orang. Dikatakan dalam buku tersebut bahwa bahasa itu turun temurun dan bergaul dengan bahasa lain supaya bahasa itu tetap hidup.*