Year 6/7 Second Language Learners

Writing — Average

Content

Students write in Indonesian to convey personal information about themselves, such as their names, ages, family, pets, friends, hobbies, sports, transport, favourite subjects, and foods.

Their writing includes simple descriptions, labels, captions, and letters. It is often presented as single words or as a series of sentences. Responses are up to fifty words using formulaic phrases and structures, and with support from word lists, models of responses, and dictionaries. Without support, students write words, phrases, and sentences using rehearsed language related to familiar topics.

Students know factual information about Indonesia such as the names of several islands, the capital city, and aspects of daily life (e.g. common foods, popular sports such as sepak bola).

Vocabulary

Students use vocabulary related to their personal details (e.g. Nama saya... umur saya...). They know basic personal pronouns including saya, Anda, kamu, dia and immediate family members ayah, bapak, ibu, kakak, adik, nenek, kakek. They know times of the day and simple greetings (e.g. Selamat pagi, Apa kabar?)

Students know cardinal numbers up to 10 and the words of tens (puluh) and hundreds (ratus). They use cardinal numbers to refer to their age (e.g. Saya sebelas).

They use a number of common nouns for objects related to their immediate world (e.g. classroom objects buku, pena) and school subjects (e.g. Olahraga, Bahasa Indonesia, Matematika). They name foods, fruit, vegetables (e.g. ayam goreng, nasi goreng, apel, pisang) and animals/pets (e.g. anjing, kucing).

Students use adjectives to describe the physical appearance and character of friends (e.g. hitam, coklat, hijau, biru, pendek, tinggi, lucu).

Students typically refer to daily routines (e.g. bangun, mandi, makan) and activities using bermain/main. These are most often sports that are of interest to them (e.g. sepak bola, futsal, bola basket). When they use the me- form it is learnt as formulaic vocabulary (e.g. menonton televisi, membaca buku).

Forms and Structures

Students create simple sentences using the subject-verb-object construction. These sentences most often carry one idea.

They use personal pronouns (e.g. saya, kamu, dia) and create possessive pronouns, sometimes unreliably (e.g. Saya rumah), reflecting word order in English (My house...).

Students use the simple verb suka (to like) to express their feelings and preferences (e.g. Saya suka). They negate verbs by using tidak before the verb. Their writing features verbs learnt as vocabulary items (e.g. bermain and menonton film, mendengarkan music).

Students use the preposition of place di; however, its meaning is sometimes confused and it appears to mean ‘the’ or ‘is’ (e.g. Nicole di tinggi, Elise di kecil).

Discourse

Students write sentences with a key idea, occasionally combining two ideas in a single sentence. Combining ideas is achieved by using the simple conjunction dan (and). They extend descriptions by listing examples (e.g. Saya suka makan apel, pisang, nasi goreng; Keluarga saya kakak, adik, dua binatang piaraan). Occasionally there are errors such as sentences with no active verb (e.g. Saya empat anjing dan empat kucing). Students draw on English to complete their meaning when it is beyond their current range (e.g. Saya favourite subject is olahraga dan kesenian).

With support, students create texts such as simple descriptions (e.g. my school, my hobby, a personal profile). They use formulaic cohesive devices such as days of the week pada hari... and locations di rumah... di pantai... to structure responses.