SIMPLEXITY IN WRITING ENGLISH COUPLETS FOR STUDENTS OF SMAN 19 SURABAYA

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Abstract: This article describes the community service report that details how students at SMAN 19 Surabaya were trained to write English couplets in 2024. One type of English literary work, particularly poetry, is couplets, which are two lines of verse united in a rhyme. Writing couplets is a real example of this simplexity, where even seemingly straightforward elements can have a variety of intricate details. It is intriguing how different possibilities can be included in such brief couplet lines. According to Jeffrey Kluger, simplexity can be achieved through an exploratory strategy in qualitative research by developing a consciousness of complexity in writing and/or analyzing such straightforward topics. Expanding the notions to include any known and explorable contexts within is also necessary. By doing this, clarity may be recognized because it may represent this awareness of a system's dynamicity in even the most basic element. In this instance, highlighting specifics toward more general topics through couplet poetry helps to broaden the concept of simplexity. In conclusion, the composition of couplets by SMAN 19 Surabaya students not only illustrates the need of developing creativity in creating universal literary patterns, but also demonstrates how couplets are reflections of simplexity concepts.
Keywords: Community Service; Couplet; Simplexity; Writing

INTRODUCTION

From elementary school to senior high school, almost all Indonesian schools offer English as its core subject in class. It does not, however, imply that English literary masterpieces are routinely taught (Bachtiar, 2024; Mubaroq & Qamariah, 2024). In practical class, its writing process is likewise less developed. Couplets and other poetry writing are discouraged since it is said to be unhelpful for future English language use. The reason for this is that in a professional setting, English is only considered a language to be used as a tool. In the meantime, more research should be done on English literature writing in order to close the gap between literary ideas and real-world experiences (Harahap & Fithriani, 2024). This is done so that writing literature works could be such an alternative to learn English as a foreign language.

Two-stanza rhyming poetry is typical of couplets. The writing might consist of six or eight stanzas. Two lines that have the same length and rhyme to convey a single idea are called a rhyming couplet (Hunter, 2001; Launer, 2004). The length of the lines is unlimited. Words that sound the same when uttered are said to rhyme. The rhymes, in fact, are not always needed to be spelled identically. Pronunciation is the key concept here, not the rhymes' written words. Couplets are intended to be spoken, not just read, as indicated by this, in order to highlight the beauty of the rhyme. Its beauty is raised due to how it sounds, not how it is written through rhymed alphabets (Burt & Mikics, 2010; Hunter, 2001).

Community service plays a pivotal role in accentuating the dissemination of academic knowledge and scholarly information to a substantially larger and more diverse audience. Furthermore, English literature classes substantially benefit from this concept, particularly in the context of encouraging senior high school students to engage more deeply with the study of couplets and their literary significance. The training of writing encapsulates the community service endeavors undertaken by the students of Sekolah Menengah Atas Negeri (SMAN) 19 Surabaya during the year 2024. The primary aim of this initiative is to guide students in harnessing their own imaginative and innovative ideas to effectively compose these couplets.

Additionally, this community service is designed to enhance the students' creative capacities, particularly in the domain of crafting literary works that are inspired by the nuances and intricacies of

everyday experiences. This community service is a specific method that students can become more conscious of patterns in English literary works especially through couplets. Writing couplets is an effective means to gain favorable preferences regarding English literature. It is also needed to show the direct reflections of universal aspects of literature especially through linguistic signs and norms being taught (Burt & Mikics, 2010; Hunter, 2001). Writing couplets may also mean to apply such literary concepts to imaginative writings. They can improve their English proficiency, especially by indicating simplexity of English literary works that brings forward complexities regarding any simple aspect in literature, including vocabulary, grammar, and even clauses and phrases.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The fundamental objective of this community service initiative is to significantly enhance the understanding and comprehension of English literary couplet structures, particularly in relation to the concept of simplexity that exists within these constructs. This endeavor is specifically designed to impart knowledge and skills to senior high school students at SMA Negeri 19 Surabaya, thereby equipping them with the ability to effectively compose couplets. Despite the fact that these students possess robust cognitive abilities in the English language, it has been observed that they frequently encounter a deficiency in practical experience, which in turn results in a lack of observable outcomes in their daily interactions and activities. This phenomenon can primarily be attributed to the widespread perception that the English language is not regarded as particularly beneficial or applicable in the context of everyday life, especially when compared to its significance in formal educational settings. In light of these observations, this community service initiative employs a devised strategy aimed at enhancing the students' proficiency in the English language, with a specific emphasis on the art of writing couplets. The preparatory phase of this community endeavor necessitates a close collaboration with the educational institution, which facilitates the students in their journey to compose couplets, as well as a thorough evaluation of the simplexity in their couplets and its prospective applications in various contexts.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS
Writing Couplets and Its Simplexity

A couplet is defined as a structural unit within poetry that comprises two consecutive lines of verse, which are intricately interconnected by both rhyme and rhythmic patterns. The strategic application of rhythm combined with lyrical language serves to vividly animate and invigorate the essence of a poem, transforming it into a dynamic experience for the readers (Burt & Mikics, 2010; Hunter, 2001). Additionally, a couplet may also pertain to two sequential lines of poetry that effectively culminate a sentence or encapsulate a specific concept, thereby providing closure to the thematic elements presented. The lines of a couplet commonly adhere to a particular meter, which is characterized by a consistent syllabic rhythm that enhances the overall musicality of the piece (Hunter, 2001; Fitzgerald, 2020; Launer, 2004).

Although it should be noted that not every couplet conforms to a rhyming scheme, it is true that the overwhelming majority of couplets do exhibit this characteristic. A couplet possesses the versatility to exist as a self-contained poem, capable of conveying meaning independently or alternatively, to be integrated seamlessly within the broader context of a longer poetic work (Hunter, 2001; Fitzgerald, 2020; Launer, 2004). Furthermore, the use of rhyme within a couplet serves a dual purpose; it not only contributes to the aesthetic appeal of the poem but also facilitates the creation of imaginative imagery, wherein the reader may uncover and appreciate the nuanced emphasis of various linguistic and literary significances that are embedded within the text (Hunter, 2001; Fitzgerald, 2020; Launer, 2004).

The term of simplexity, which was originally introduced by Jeffrey Kluger in the year 2008, is utilized to encapsulate the essential organizational competencies that are indicative of future-oriented organizational practices (Kluger, 2008; Lassiter, 2019; Zelenak, 2016). This concept embodies a harmonious blend of a sufficiently intricate level of cognitive engagement with an indispensable degree of simplicity in actionable strategies. The necessity for a sophisticated level of cognitive processing is paramount in order to perceive and acknowledge the vast array of phenomena—the abundant and chaotic multitude of elements—that serves as a representation of an increasingly unpredictable and ambiguity in following driven world (Kluger, 2008; Lassiter, 2019; Rego, 2010). It becomes evident that an instrument characterized by a complexity that is commensurate with the intricate environment one aspires to comprehend is essential for the effective execution of both sense-making and organizational processes.

Simplexity also means to imply such complexity behind simple ideas. In this sense, being simple is favorable and not to be avoided at all. Being simple is always okay since it may also contain various possibilities of complexities within (Cowley & Gahrn-Andersen, 2019; Kluger, 2008; Lassiter, 2019).

Realities could totally separate between being simple and complex since both of them may correlate and even overlap to each other. Staying merely on one side is needed for analysis, but the reality is always wider and deeper than the exact definitions. In literary sense, even only the difference of using a word may shape a whole difference in indicating meanings in there (Lassiter, 2019; Rego, 2010; Tworek et al., 2019). That is why even a simple word or letter contains such potential of complexity ready to be applied furthermore.

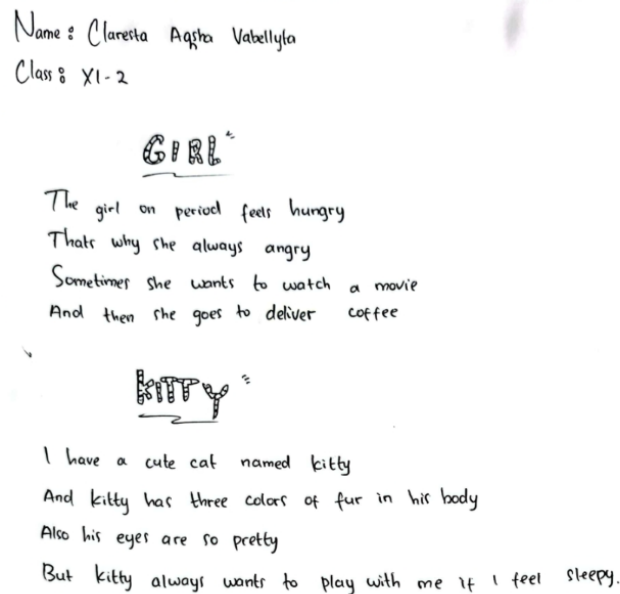**Results of Writing Couplets Based on Simplexity**

Figure 1. Couplets entitled "Girl" and "Kitty"

The above Figures show two couplets composed by Claresta Aqsha Vabellyta. These couplets narrate the experiences of a female protagonist and her feline companion. In the initial stanza entitled "Girl," the author posits that all women experiencing menstruation are likely to encounter fluctuations in their emotional states. Concurrently, in this context, the character also undergoes such emotional shifts, predominantly characterized by feelings of ire. The subsequent stanza delineates the character's methods for managing these emotional fluctuations. Numerous women tend to redirect their energies towards what is commonly referred to as the "woman's comfort zone." The character is subtly depicted by the author as having a pronounced affinity for coffee and cinematic experiences. This couplet is noteworthy due to its straightforward elucidation of women's experiences, which may symbolize their autonomy in selecting their preferred environments. Women ought not to be constrained by male expectations, as they possess a profound understanding of their true identities, thereby emphasizing the uniqueness of their individual attributes.

The second couplet presents a profound exploration of the character known as Kitty, who is not merely a name but a significant part of the narrative. This particular character possesses a feline companion, a cat that bears the same name, Kitty, which plays a crucial role in the emotional landscape of the story. Throughout the entirety of the character's existence, there exists an unwavering bond between the character and the cat, signifying a relationship that transcends mere companionship. Kitty's presence is not limited to ordinary circumstances; rather, she is depicted as a very good companion, accompanying the character through every conceivable situation, including the moments that lead to the character's demise and even death.

The author skillfully articulates detailed descriptions of Kitty, encompassing various aspects such as her physical form, the texture and coloration of her fur, as well as the nuances of her behavior, which collectively enhance the reader's understanding of her character. Although the couplet itself is crafted in a manner that is relatively simple and short, it nevertheless conveys a rich tapestry of complex emotions that exist between the pet and its owner, allowing the audience to grasp the depth of their relationship. This intricate dynamic offers a more profound perspective, suggesting that the experience of pet ownership

extends beyond mere caregiving and into the realm of establishing a genuine friendship that significantly enriches one's life.
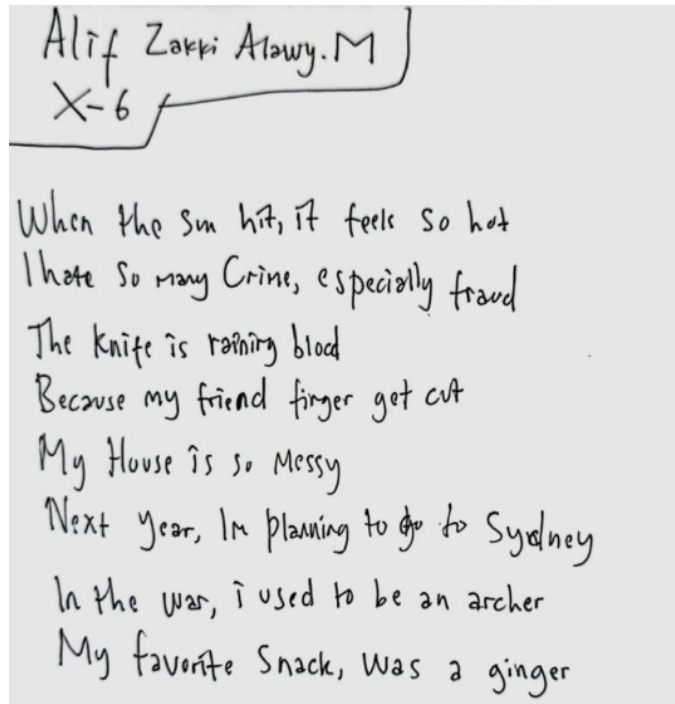

Figure 2. A Couplet Written by Alif Zakki Alawy M.

The Figure 2 above speaks about complexity in everyday life through simple words. In the first verse, the author tells that the character hates crime, especially fraud. It is not yet known for sure what the reason behind his hatred is. In the second verse, the author tells the experience of the character's friend who was once injured by a knife, this implicitly shows that the character was at the scene when the incident occurred. In the third verse, the depiction of the atmosphere changes drastically to become tense. The main character's house is messy as if someone tried to sneak in.

In the fourth verse, it might be the key to what happened to the author. The word "archer" might indicate who the main character is, it does not mean that the character is an archer but it could be that the main character often makes other people their targets. The word "blood" might be the key that the character's job is related to violence, and because it is told in the past, it is possible that the character's targets tried to turn things around by making the character a target as shown in the sentence "My house is so messy" so that the character feels frustrated and tries to escape to Sydney.
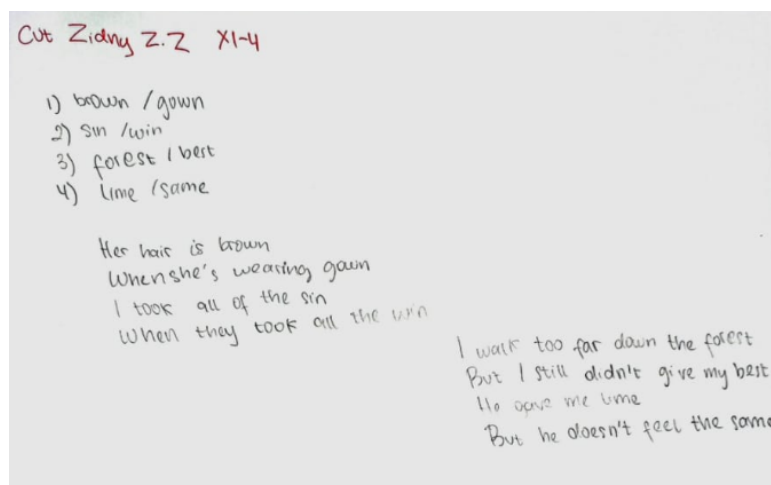

Figure 3. Couplets written by Cut Zidny Z. Z.

The Figure above is how the author explains about her complex situation of daily life. "Her hair is brown / When she's wearing gown" may suggest a specific image of a woman, where her appearance is tied to a certain moments or attire. There may be an emphasis on her hair and clothing, the "brown hair" and the "gown" show the beauty embraced by the lady. "I took all of the sin | When they took all the win" implies a feeling of sacrifice or burden. The character may feel that s/he has absorbed blame or guilt of "sin", while the others taking the reward "win". This couplet is two different aspects but have silver lining especially in how beauty could win and even lose. Two stanzas in the latter underline that the author feels such loss, while others gain advantage from the situation.

The right couplet is explained in the following. "I walk too far dawn the forest | But I still didn't give me best" is likely meant to suggest a journey or exploration, or perhaps the character was tried the best but still got blamed by the other. "He gave me lime | But he doesn't feel the same" could be a metaphor. "Lime" might symbolize something bitter sweet tastes. Limes are both sour and useful in many ways. The speaker seems to feel unreciprocated emotions; although someone gave him something, that person does not share the same feelings. The simple words in there give complex perspectives that losing is inevitable in life. Both of the couplets convey a mix of personal reflection, unfulfilled effort, and unreciprocated feelings. It feels like an expression of emotional complexity, with themes of sacrifice, disappointment, and longing.
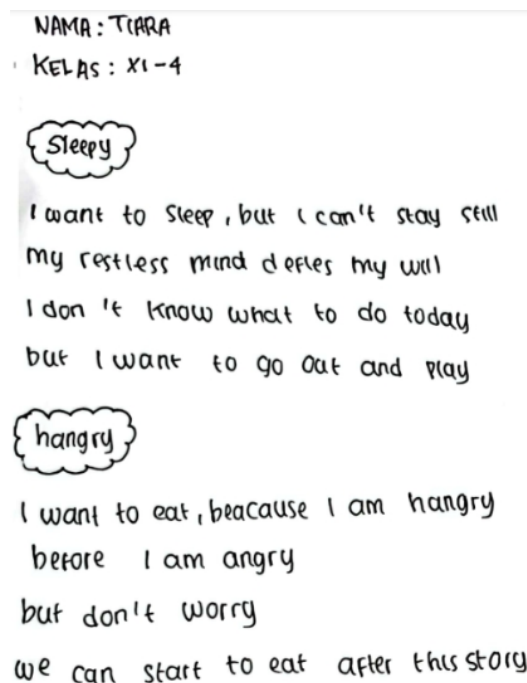

Figure 4. Couplets of "Sleepy" and "Hangry" by Tiara

In the couplet "Sleepy," readers might think the character is just sleepy. Meanwhile, if they look closer, it can also mean the character is close to dying, between life and death. The character wants to rest, which could mean their final rest, but something is stopping her. The character's mind is keeping her awake, making her restless as well. Then, she feels confused about whether to stay alive or give up. Then, "play" might mean that she wants to free her soul and finds peace. Readers may start feeling sympathy for the character.

In the couplet "Hangry," readers might assume the character is just really hungry. However, it could also be about frustration from not having enough food. The character is starving and getting frustrated. The character then tries to calm herself and not to get too mad. Then, the character gives hope to better next move. The word "story" could mean a time of hardship or lack of food. This makes readers feel sympathy for the character's struggle. Hangry is a combination between hungry and angry. It shows a feeling in which someone could easily get angry while starving. It may also mean that one way to solve anger is to eat.

The two couplets presented above serve to elucidate the notion that this specific genre of poetry is characterized by the presence of nuanced, implied meanings that lie beneath the surface of the text. It may

ostensibly convey messages that resonate with the brevity aspects of everyday existence (Lassiter, 2019; Rego, 2010; Tworek et al., 2019). Then, it simultaneously encompasses intricate and sophisticated concepts, as exemplified by the notion of simplexity. The apparent simplicity of the language employed belies the underlying complexity of the ideas being communicated

Moreover, it is also suggesting that there is significantly more depth to the work than what is superficially articulated. This characteristic prompts the audience to engage in a continual process of contemplation and reevaluation concerning the various meanings embedded within the lines (Lassiter, 2019; Rego, 2010; Tworek et al., 2019). By making this assertion, it becomes evident that the potential for the emergence of new interpretations and meanings can be realized, thereby enriching the discourse surrounding the poetic work.

Figure 5 "Piranha Fish" by Putri Jesicha A. S.

In the couplet of "Piranha Fish," it might seem like the couplet is just about a fierce fish. The author perfectly describes the fish as being compared to predator and even alligator. The way the animal catches the prey is also scary since it goes by the flow of the water. It is differed from the crow that strikes fast. This is the signs where poems could also mean such short story especially in how it tells stories to the audience.

Meanwhile, the couplet could also be about someone being abused by a man. The word "his" may point to a male figure. The piranha's sharp teeth could symbolize the man's physical strength. The piranha attacks repeatedly, just as the man physically harms someone. The man might think he is strong, but he is not as powerful as he believes. The man approached the victim slowly, making them feel comfortable and dependent on him. Before realizing the man's true intentions, the victim was charmed by his good looks, which can be dangerous. This couplet makes readers feel tense and anxious for the character and the victim as well.

Those two different meanings in a couplet indicate that simplexity lies within this kind of literary work. It gives a richer perspective rather than definitions. It triggers audience to think about the other meanings. It is because any single aspect in couplet is vary. People should find the meanings by enjoying the rhymes and then consuming the stanzas by colliding own experience and author's pretense.

Figure 6. A Couplet entitled "Water"

Written by an author named Diana Kholidah, this intricately crafted couplet digs deeper into both the overt and nuanced interpretations associated with the essence of water. In a straightforward manner, this couplet employs a rhyme scheme to elucidate the multifaceted characteristics and significance of water. Although water itself may be perceived as a basic and commonplace element, the author skillfully articulates its existential qualities through the imagery of its flowing nature and its remarkable ability to alleviate human thirst. Furthermore, this exploration of water is inextricably linked to the broader context of the natural world. It is indeed wherein the inherent goodness and purity of water remain perpetually preserved and celebrated.

Moreover, at the first glance, "Water" seems to describe a ordinary water, but it might actually be as metaphor for human life. Life flows steadily, like water, from birth through childhood. In adolescence, life becomes harder, and people often complain. Challenges in life make everyone feel alive, like water quenching our thirst. After overcoming struggles, individuals are used to feel satisfaction including celebration of successes and fun. As adults, people then start building better lives, often with a partner. Life is a gift from God, and everyone's soul is indeed naturally pure. That is why people should be thankful for everything they have. This couplet encourages readers to see life in a deeper way.

CONCLUSION

By implementing a rigorous training program focused on the art of writing couplets for the students enrolled at SMAN 19 Surabaya, this community service initiative endeavors to illuminate the intricate perspectives associated with this particular form of literary expression, which can be conceptualized through the notion of simplexity. Indeed, the couplet exemplifies a remarkable instance of simplexity, wherein subtle and nuanced meanings are intricately woven into its structure, thereby enriching the reader's experience. Furthermore, this literary form is inherently linked to seemingly straightforward ideas that are, in fact, deeply intertwined with the multifaceted complexities of human cognition, particularly as they pertain to the thought processes and creative expressions of the authors themselves. Additionally, it is crucial to acknowledge the significance of the readers, who actively engage with the text, thereby assuming pivotal roles in the interpretation, consumption, and transformation of new meanings that emerge from the couplets presented to them. By articulating this perspective, it becomes evident that this community service program has achieved notable success in imparting the knowledge that literary works, no matter how short and simple it is, may always involve complex understandings inside.

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