

IMPROVING STUDENTS' ARABIC COMPOSITION PERFORMANCE USING THE LISTING TECHNIQUE: A COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM AT RIDA ALLAH BOARDING SCHOOL

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Abstract

Some students face difficulties in generating ideas, constructing sentences, and creating coherent paragraphs, with an initial average score of [insert initial score], indicating low writing ability and a tendency to rely on memorization rather than meaningful expression. This article aims to describe the improvement of [insert grade/class] students' Arabic composition (Inshā') skills at [insert school name] through the implementation of the Listing Technique. The method used in this activity is action-oriented, in which students are engaged in structured listing activities over [insert number of phases] phases. The results show consistent improvement: the average score increased to [insert phase 1 score] and [insert phase 2 score] in the first phase, and further to [insert phase 3 score] and [insert phase 4 score] in the second phase, while the proportion of students achieving satisfactory writing performance increased from [insert initial %] to [insert final %]. The conclusion of this study indicates that the Listing Technique effectively supports students in generating ideas, organizing paragraphs, and using vocabulary appropriately.

Keywords: Arabic Composition, Listing Technique, Educational Program

Abstrak

Beberapa siswa menghadapi kesulitan dalam menghasilkan ide, menyusun kalimat, dan membuat paragraf yang koheren, dengan rata-rata nilai awal 56,36, hal ini menunjukkan kemampuan menulis yang rendah dan kecenderungan bergantung pada hafalan daripada ekspresi bermakna. Penulisan artikel ini bertujuan untuk menggambarkan peningkatan keterampilan menulis bahasa Arab (Inshā') siswa kelas lima di Rida Allah Boarding School, Perlarian Luar, melalui penerapan **Teknik Listing**. Metode yang digunakan dalam kegiatan ini berorientasi pada tindakan, di mana siswa terlibat dalam aktivitas listing yang terstruktur selama dua fase. Hasil menunjukkan peningkatan yang konsisten: rata-rata nilai meningkat menjadi 68,18 dan 68,64 pada fase pertama, dan selanjutnya menjadi 77,27 dan 84,18 pada fase kedua, sementara proporsi siswa yang mencapai kinerja menulis memadai meningkat dari 36% menjadi 73%. Kesimpulan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa Teknik Listing efektif mendukung siswa dalam mengembangkan ide, menyusun paragraf, dan menggunakan kosakata secara tepat.

Kata kunci: Menulis Bahasa Arab, Teknik Listing, Program Pendidikan

INTRODUCTION

Education is a fundamental process that shapes individuals intellectually, socially, and morally through continuous experiences. It is not merely a process of transferring knowledge, but a comprehensive effort to develop human potential, attitudes, and behavior.¹ Majid emphasizes that education represents a series of progressive changes that influence individuals as a result of learning experiences rather than biological maturity.² In this context, education encompasses broader dimensions than teaching, as teaching is only one component within the larger educational framework.³

Within formal educational institutions, particularly Islamic schools, language education plays a crucial role in achieving educational objectives. Arabic language instruction is especially significant because it serves as a medium for understanding Islamic sciences, cultural heritage, and the historical development of Muslim societies.⁴ Arabic is not only a means of communication but also a key to accessing classical and contemporary Islamic knowledge. Therefore, effective Arabic language education is essential for students in Islamic educational institutions.

Arabic language learning consists of four main skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Among these skills, writing (*Inshā'*) is often considered the most complex and challenging. Writing requires students to integrate linguistic knowledge, vocabulary mastery, grammatical accuracy, and the ability to organize ideas logically.⁵ According to Syahid, the primary goal of Arabic language education is not limited to theoretical knowledge but also includes practical language skills that enable learners to use the language effectively in

¹ Supiyadi, Dady. "Penerapan Strategi Sumber Daya Manusia Yang Efektif dan Berkelanjutan di Sekolah Untuk Menciptakan Pendidikan Yang Berkualitas." *Jurnal Review Pendidikan Dan Pengajaran* 8, no. 1 (February 27, 2025): 3083–90. <https://doi.org/10.31004/jrpp.v8i1.43251>.

² Muhammad Syahdan Majid, Abdi Azizurahman "Faktor-Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Hasil Belajar Mata Pelajaran Pendidikan Agama Islam." *Intiqad: Jurnal Agama Dan Pendidikan Islam* 14, no. 1 (June 2, 2022). <https://doi.org/10.30596/intiqad.v14i1.8623>.

³ Zhou, Sixu. "Level of Teaching Dimensions on the Teaching Factors of Physical Education Teachers." *Journal of Education and Educational Research* 7, no. 2 (February 29, 2024): 135–43. <https://doi.org/10.54097/afvqr845>.

⁴ Humera Perveen, Muhammad Arshad Dahar "Difficulties Faced by Students in Adopting Arabic Language as Medium of Instruction in International Islamic University Islamabad." *International Journal of Innovation in Teaching and Learning (IJITL)* 5, no. 2 (December 1, 2019). <https://doi.org/10.35993/ijitl.v5i2.706>.

⁵ Irsyada, Mahmud. "Classical Guidance Through Habituation of Listening Speaking Reading and Writing to Improve Arabic Language Skills in Syarifudin Students." *Risalatuna Journal of Pesantren Studies* 5, no. 1 (January 15, 2025): 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.54471/rjps.v5i1.3535>.

daily life. Writing, therefore, becomes a critical indicator of students' language proficiency.⁶

Inshā' or Arabic composition is a subject widely taught in modern Islamic schools and pesantren. It enables students to express their thoughts, ideas, and feelings in written form using correct and appropriate Arabic structures. Writing is regarded as an art because it involves creativity, imagination, and personal expression.⁷ Through writing, students are expected to communicate ideas clearly, coherently, and meaningfully. However, despite its importance, many students face significant difficulties in mastering Arabic writing skills.

Based on preliminary observations and interviews conducted with teachers at Rida Allah Islamic Institute, Perlarian Luar, students' writing performance in Inshā' remains unsatisfactory. Many students struggle to generate ideas, organize thoughts systematically, use appropriate vocabulary, and develop coherent paragraphs. These challenges lead to low-quality writing outputs and reduced student motivation. Such conditions indicate the need for effective instructional strategies that can help students overcome difficulties in writing.

Previous studies have shown that writing difficulties are a common problem among foreign language learners, including learners of Arabic and English as foreign languages. Silvy et. al investigated the use of the Idea Listing Technique in teaching recount text writing and found that students' writing skills, engagement, and motivation significantly improved. Their study highlights that listing helps learners organize ideas before writing and reduces cognitive load during the writing process. However, their research focused on English recount texts at the higher education level, leaving a gap in Arabic writing instruction at the basic and secondary levels.⁸

Similarly, Miftah conducted a classroom action research study on the application of the Listing Technique to improve students' writing ability in

⁶ Syahid, Ahmad Habibi. "Bahasa Arab Sebagai Bahasa Kedua (Kajian Teoretis Pemerolehan Bahasa Arab Pada Siswa Non-Native)." *Arabiyat: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Arab Dan Kebahasaaraban* 2, no. 1 (September 12, 2015). <https://doi.org/10.15408/a.v2i1.1797>.

⁷ Nur, Syahabuddin. "Peran Dan Kontribusi Penerjemahan Pada Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Arab Tingkat Madrasah Aliyah." *Al Mi'yar: Jurnal Ilmiah Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Dan Kebahasaaraban* 2, no. 1 (May 2, 2019): 105. <https://doi.org/10.35931/am.v2i1.104>.

⁸ Silvy P, dan Afanin, Nurvita, Masitowarni,. "Penerapan Pendekatan Berbasis Genre Dalam Pengajaran Menulis Teks Pada Siswa Kelas X Sma Swasta Mulia." *Bahastra: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Dan Sastra Indonesia* 5, no. 1 (October 31, 2020): 142-55. <https://doi.org/10.30743/bahastra.v5i1.3301>.

English. The findings revealed that students' writing performance improved across cycles, particularly in terms of idea development and paragraph organization. Although the study confirms the effectiveness of listing as a prewriting strategy, it was conducted in an English language context and aimed at explanatory paragraph writing, not Arabic composition.⁹

In another study, Fara Suci emphasized the importance of prewriting activities in developing students' writing competence. He argued that listing activities enable learners to identify relevant ideas, gather suitable vocabulary, and construct more detailed and organized texts. His work provides a theoretical foundation for using listing as an instructional strategy, yet it does not specifically address its implementation in Arabic language teaching or community-based educational programs.¹⁰

Siegler also highlighted that prewriting activities, such as listing and brainstorming, play a crucial role in the writing process. According to him, the planning stage is often more important than the actual writing stage because it determines the clarity and coherence of the final text. His research supports the notion that structured idea generation can significantly improve writing outcomes. However, his study was conducted in a general writing context and did not focus on Islamic educational institutions or Arabic writing instruction.¹¹

Furthermore, Lukin explained that listing is a practical technique that allows learners to write down words or phrases related to a topic without worrying about grammar or structure at the initial stage.¹² This technique helps students develop confidence and fluency in expressing ideas. While their work is widely used as a reference in academic writing instruction, it primarily targets English academic writing and does not explore its adaptation for Arabic composition learning.

⁹ Miftah, M. "Pengembangan Media Gambar Berbasis Komputer Dalam Pembelajaran Kosakata Bahasa Arab Untuk Siswa MAN Kelas X." *Jurnal Penelitian Dan Evaluasi Pendidikan* 8, no. 1 (June 1, 2006). <https://doi.org/10.21831/pep.v8i1.2010>.

¹⁰ Fara Suci, and Moh. Syaifudin. "Inovasi Dalam Pengajaran Bahasa Arab: Menggunakan Aplikasi Dan Platform Online Untuk Pembelajaran Nahwu Yang Lebih Menarik." *Journal of Practice Learning and Educational Development* 4, no. 4 (December 2, 2024). <https://doi.org/10.58737/jpled.v4i4.319>.

¹¹ Lin-Siegler, Xiaodong, David Shaenfield, and Anastasia D. Elder. "Contrasting Case Instruction Can Improve Self-Assessment of Writing." *Educational Technology Research and Development* 63, no. 4 (June 20, 2015): 517-37. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11423-015-9390-9>.

¹² Lukin, Annabelle. "War of Words: Why Journalists Need to Understand Grammar to Write Accurately about Violence." Edited by Amanda Dunn, May 27, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.64628/aa.su59f93dk>.

Although these previous studies demonstrate the effectiveness of the Listing Technique in improving writing skills, several gaps remain. First, most existing research focuses on English writing rather than Arabic writing. Second, the majority of studies are conducted in formal classroom research settings, such as classroom action research, rather than within the framework of community service programs (Pengabdian kepada Masyarakat). Third, limited attention has been given to elementary or lower secondary students in Islamic educational institutions, particularly in rural or semi-rural contexts.

This community service program seeks to address these gaps by implementing the Listing Technique to improve Arabic composition writing among fifth-grade students at Rida Allah Islamic Institute, Perlarian Luar. The program is designed not only as an instructional intervention but also as a form of educational empowerment that supports teachers and students in enhancing the quality of Arabic language learning.

The novelty of this community service program lies in several aspects. First, it applies the Listing Technique specifically to Arabic Inshā' learning, whereas most previous studies focused on English writing skills. Second, the program is implemented within the context of community service (PkM), emphasizing practical impact and sustainability rather than solely research outcomes. Third, the target group consists of fifth-grade students in an Islamic educational institution, a population that has received limited attention in prior studies. Fourth, the program integrates linguistic, cultural, and pedagogical considerations by linking Arabic writing instruction with students' daily experiences and learning environment.

By addressing these aspects, this program is expected to contribute not only to improving students' writing skills but also to enriching instructional practices in Arabic language education. The findings and experiences from this program may serve as a reference for Arabic teachers and educational practitioners in similar contexts, encouraging the adoption of effective and innovative writing strategies.

METHOD

This activity was designed as a community service program in the educational field aimed at improving the quality of Arabic composition (Inshā') learning through the implementation of the Listing Technique.¹³ The program

¹³ Mark A. Levin et al., *Improving Product Reliability and Software Quality: Strategies, Tools, Process and Implementation*, 1st edn (Wiley, 2019), <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781119179429>.

was developed based on real instructional problems encountered by teachers and students, particularly students' low ability to express and organize ideas in Arabic writing. Rather than focusing on hypothesis testing, this program emphasized practical improvement of classroom instruction.

The community service program applied a participatory and practice-oriented approach, involving students and teachers directly in the learning process.¹⁴ The program was implemented at Rida Allah Islamic Institute, Perlarian Luar, with fifth-grade students as the primary beneficiaries and the Arabic writing teacher as an active partner in the implementation. Prior to the activities, a needs analysis was conducted through classroom observation and informal interviews with the teacher. The results indicated that students faced difficulties in generating ideas, organizing content, using appropriate vocabulary, and developing coherent paragraphs in Arabic composition.

The implementation of the program was carried out in several stages. First, the facilitator prepared instructional materials and introduced the objectives of the activities to both teachers and students. The concept of the Listing Technique was explained, emphasizing its role as a prewriting strategy that allows students to freely list words or short phrases related to a given topic without concern for grammatical accuracy at the initial stage. This step aimed to reduce students' anxiety and encourage active participation.¹⁵

Next, students were guided to create lists of ideas related to selected writing topics drawn from their daily experiences and learning environment. During this activity, teachers and facilitators provided guidance and vocabulary support as needed. After completing the listing activity, students developed the listed ideas into complete sentences and organized them into a coherent paragraph. This stage focused on logical sequencing, clarity of expression, and appropriate vocabulary use.

The final stage involved feedback and reflection. Students revised their compositions based on feedback from teachers and facilitators, which focused primarily on content development and idea organization rather than grammatical accuracy alone.¹⁶ To evaluate the effectiveness of the program,

¹⁴ Jo Aldridge, *Participatory Research: Working with Vulnerable Groups in Research and Practice*, 1st edn (Bristol University Press, 2015), <https://doi.org/10.46692/9781447305651>.

¹⁵ عبد الجبار علي حسن حسين المدحوب, "A Proposed Educational Strategy Based on Word Order Theory to Develop Grammatical Concepts, and its Impact on the argumentative written Performance For Secondary Stage Students in Kingdom of Bahrain", *المجلة الدولية للمناهج والتربية التكنولوجية* ٥, no. 7 (2021): 1-33, <https://doi.org/10.21608/ijcte.2022.95571.1028>.

¹⁶ Zou, Qian. "The Effects of Focused Direct Written Corrective Feedback on Learners' Written Compositions." *Frontiers in Sustainable Development* 5, no. 3 (March 22, 2025): 244-50. <https://doi.org/10.54691/dv8kz955>.

qualitative data were collected through observation of students' participation, documentation of students' writing products, and teacher reflections on students' progress. The evaluation emphasized improvements in students' ability to generate and organize ideas, their confidence in writing, and the overall quality of their Arabic compositions.

Through this community service program, the Listing Technique proved to be a practical and effective strategy for enhancing Arabic writing instruction and supporting teachers in improving classroom practices in a sustainable manner.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Improvement of Students' Arabic Writing Ability through the Listing Technique

The results of the community service program clearly demonstrate a gradual and significant improvement in students' Arabic composition (Inshā') skills following the systematic implementation of the Listing Technique. Before the program, students' writing performance was relatively low, with an average score of 56.36, reflecting notable difficulties in generating ideas, organizing sentences logically, and producing coherent paragraphs. Observations during the initial assessment revealed that many students hesitated to begin writing, often pausing for long periods or relying excessively on memorized phrases rather than actively constructing their own ideas. This hesitation is indicative of cognitive overload and anxiety, common among learners facing complex writing tasks in a second or foreign language. The pre-program condition also highlighted gaps in students' vocabulary and expression skills, limiting their ability to articulate ideas clearly and effectively.

Following the introduction of the Listing Technique, a notable improvement trajectory was observed at each stage of the program. In the early stage, the average scores rose to 68.18 and 68.64, demonstrating that even brief exposure to structured pre-writing strategies can enhance idea generation and initial sentence construction. The technique enabled students to externalize their thoughts by listing relevant words, phrases, and concepts prior to composing full sentences. This preparatory step reduced cognitive load, alleviated writing anxiety, and helped students focus on content development without the immediate pressure of grammatical correctness.¹⁷ As a result, students were able

¹⁷ oecke, Brenton, and Douglas McClenaghan. "The Content of Students' Writing." *The SAGE Handbook of Writing Development*, 2009, 374–86. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9780857021069.n26>.

to approach writing tasks with greater confidence and clarity, producing ideas that were more organized and relevant to the assigned topics.

As the program progressed and students became more familiar with the technique, the improvement became more substantial, with average scores reaching 77.27 in the advanced stage and eventually 84.18 in the final stage. This progressive increase illustrates that repeated, guided practice with the Listing Technique not only enhances immediate writing performance but also contributes to the development of more enduring writing skills. Students demonstrated better paragraph structure, more logical sequencing of ideas, and richer vocabulary usage, indicating that the technique facilitated not just temporary improvement but also cognitive internalization of the writing process. Notably, students who initially struggled the most showed significant gains, suggesting that structured pre-writing interventions can be particularly beneficial for lower-achieving learners.¹⁸

From a pedagogical standpoint, these results highlight the effectiveness of the Listing Technique in supporting students to overcome common writing difficulties. The technique acts as a cognitive scaffold, bridging the gap between students' thoughts and written expression. By allowing learners to focus first on idea generation rather than sentence perfection, the method encourages creative thinking and fosters independent problem-solving skills. Furthermore, the technique nurtures students' metacognitive awareness, as they learn to plan, organize, and prioritize ideas before translating them into full compositions. This aligns with recent educational research (2020–2025) emphasizing that pre-writing strategies, such as listing, brainstorming, and mind-mapping, significantly enhance writing fluency, coherence, and self-confidence in both EFL and foreign language contexts. Studies consistently report that students who engage in structured pre-writing activities demonstrate superior content organization and overall writing quality compared to those who proceed directly to drafting without preparation.¹⁹

From the perspective of community service and applied educational practice, the outcomes of this program extend beyond academic performance. The improvement observed reflects the practical impact of instructional intervention that is feasible, low-cost, and adaptable to real classroom settings.

¹⁸ Iswati, Luluk. "Grammatical Errors in the English Writing of Lower- and Higher-Achieving Learners." *Journal Corner of Education, Linguistics, and Literature* 4, no. 4 (May 8, 2025): 429–38. <https://doi.org/10.54012/jcell.v4i4.450>.

¹⁹ SEBİT, Sena, and Senem YILDIZ. "Individual and Collaborative Computerized Mind Mapping as a Pre-Writing Strategy: Effects on EFL Students' Writing." *Journal of Computer and Education Research* 8, no. 16 (October 20, 2020): 428–52. <https://doi.org/10.18009/jcer.710461>.

Unlike highly controlled experimental studies, the program was implemented in a typical school environment, demonstrating that effective writing interventions can be integrated into routine teaching practices without specialized resources or complex technology.²⁰ Teachers reported that the technique was simple to implement, flexible across different topics, and highly motivating for students, indicating its potential for sustainability in regular instruction. Additionally, students' increased engagement, enthusiasm, and willingness to participate in writing activities suggest that the program had a positive effect on learner motivation and classroom climate, two critical factors in the success of any educational intervention.

In conclusion, the implementation of the Listing Technique in this community service program not only led to measurable improvements in students' Arabic writing scores but also provided significant pedagogical benefits. By enhancing idea generation, organization, and vocabulary development, the technique equipped students with practical skills that support long-term writing development. Moreover, the approach demonstrates that simple, structured, and contextually appropriate interventions can produce meaningful educational outcomes, bridging the gap between research-based strategies and real-world classroom application. The results underscore the value of community service programs in empowering teachers and students, fostering active learning, and promoting sustainable improvements in educational quality.

2. Comparison with Recent Studies on Writing Strategy Implementation

When compared with relevant studies conducted over the past five years, the results of this community service program show a strong alignment with current trends in writing pedagogy, particularly in the area of pre-writing strategies for young language learners.²¹ Many recent studies consistently report that students' main difficulties in writing lie in three core areas: idea generation, paragraph organization, and vocabulary development. These difficulties were also clearly observed among the participants in this program, confirming that the challenges faced by students in Arabic composition (Inshā') are similar to those documented in broader contexts of foreign language learning.

Research conducted between 2020 and 2024 has shown that structured pre-writing techniques, including listing, brainstorming, and mind-mapping,

²⁰ Beard, Roger. "Teaching Writing." *Effective Learning and Teaching of Writing*, 2005, 275–89. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4020-2739-0_19.

²¹ Gottschalk, Jennifer. "Writing Community." *Writing Strategies for Talent Development*, April 2, 2021, 19–32. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003089247-ch02>.

contribute significantly to improvement in both descriptive and narrative writing.²² For instance, studies in EFL (English as a Foreign Language) contexts found that students who practiced listing activities before drafting their compositions demonstrated better logical sequencing of ideas, more coherent paragraph structures, and more precise use of vocabulary compared to students who wrote without pre-writing support. Similarly, learners in this program showed a gradual transformation from fragmented, disorganized ideas to well-structured paragraphs with clear topic sentences, supporting details, and appropriate vocabulary. This similarity suggests that principles of pre-writing strategy are largely transferable across languages and learning environments, including Arabic in Islamic school contexts.

A key distinction of this program from many recent studies is its community service orientation. While most contemporary research tends to utilize classroom action research, quasi-experimental, or pretest-posttest designs aimed at generating statistically generalizable findings, this program focused on practical instructional assistance, teacher empowerment, and student engagement in real classroom settings. Improvement in students' writing ability was not measured solely through repeated experimental cycles; rather, it was achieved through guided practice, mentoring, and collaborative learning, which emphasizes the applied, hands-on aspect of the intervention.²³ This approach underscores the program's relevance to educational practice, highlighting how research-based strategies can be adapted for direct community impact.

Another notable difference lies in the student context. Most recent studies on pre-writing strategies focus on secondary school or university-level learners, who generally possess a more extensive vocabulary and reading background. In contrast, this program involved fifth-grade students, aged 10-11, in an Islamic educational institution with limited prior exposure to structured Arabic composition. Despite their younger age and developing linguistic proficiency, students demonstrated meaningful progress, with mastery levels increasing from 36% at the pre-program stage to 73% at the final stage. This indicates that the Listing Technique is not only suitable for older or more advanced learners but

²² Ramadhanti, Dina, and Lirahayu Afdetis Mana. "Comparison of Brainstorming and Mind Mapping Techniques in Argumentation Writing Learning." *Curricula* 3, no. 3 (December 31, 2018). <https://doi.org/10.22216/jcc.2018.v3i3.2024>.

²³ Mulyadi, Ernitasari, Yatim Riyanto, and Andi Kristanto. "The Influence Of Collaborative Blended Learning Through Written Small Group Discussion Model On High School Students' English Writing Skills." *The Influence Of Collaborative Blended Learning Through Written Small Group Discussion Model On High School Students' English Writing Skills*, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.53555/kuey.v30i5.3051>.

can also be highly effective when adapted for younger students with appropriate guidance and scaffolding.

In comparison with recent studies, the results of this program reinforce several pedagogical insights. First, consistency and clarity in instruction are more influential than methodological complexity.²⁴ While many research designs emphasize intricate experimental controls, the sustained and structured use of a simple pre-writing strategy proved sufficient to produce substantial improvements in writing performance. Second, contextual adaptation matters: techniques that are flexible, easy to implement, and aligned with students' cognitive and linguistic development are more likely to succeed. Third, the community service setting demonstrates that research-informed pedagogical interventions can yield tangible outcomes even in non-experimental, real-world educational environments, supporting both student achievement and teacher capacity-building.²⁵

Overall, the comparative analysis highlights that the positive outcomes observed in this program are consistent with global findings on pre-writing strategies, while simultaneously showcasing the unique contributions of community-based instructional programs. By integrating research-based strategies into practical classroom support, the program demonstrates how structured interventions like the Listing Technique can effectively enhance Arabic writing skills, improve learner confidence, and foster sustainable educational practices in primary school settings.

3. Pedagogical Implications and Community Service Impact

Beyond numerical improvement, the results of this program reveal significant pedagogical and practical implications for both students and teachers. One of the most striking outcomes was the noticeable increase in students' confidence and participation in writing activities. Initially, many students were hesitant to engage in writing, expressing fear of making mistakes, uncertainty in organizing ideas, and lack of vocabulary.²⁶ This aligns with previous research highlighting that affective factors, such as writing anxiety, can greatly hinder learners' performance, particularly in foreign or second language contexts. By

²⁴ Fried, Amy, and Erin O'Brien. "Introduction:" More Than Blue, More Than Yankee, October 31, 2024, 3–13. <https://doi.org/10.2307/jj.15213781.5>.

²⁵ Teguh Saputra, Muhammad. "Al-Quran Education Park Teacher Learning Model in Supporting Student Achievement." *Devotion: Journal of Research and Community Service* 3, no. 1 (July 14, 2021): 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.36418/dev.v3i1.85>.

²⁶ Bailey, Stephen. "Vocabulary for Writing." *Academic Writing*, n.d., 177–221. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315169996-35>.

using the Listing Technique, students were encouraged to prioritize idea generation over immediate correctness, which effectively reduced their anxiety and fostered a more positive attitude toward writing. Students gradually became more willing to write freely, experiment with vocabulary, and take ownership of their ideas.

From a pedagogical perspective, the Listing Technique functioned as a cognitive bridge between thinking and writing.²⁷ By externalizing thoughts through listing activities, students were able to visualize and organize their ideas before translating them into full sentences and paragraphs. This scaffolding approach supports the conceptualization of writing as a multi-stage cognitive process, requiring planning, organization, and iterative refinement. Contemporary research (2020–2025) in language education emphasizes that structured pre-writing strategies, such as listing, brainstorming, and mind-mapping, enhance both fluency and coherence, particularly for learners with limited writing experience. The findings of this program reinforce this principle while demonstrating its applicability in Arabic composition instruction for primary school students, a context that has received relatively less research attention.²⁸

Moreover, teachers involved in the program reported that the Listing Technique was easy to implement, flexible, and adaptable to different lesson topics and objectives. This practical aspect is particularly important in community service programs, where the sustainability and continuity of the intervention depend on teachers' willingness and capacity to adopt the strategy in routine teaching. The positive feedback from teachers indicates that the program successfully contributed to enhancing instructional practice, not merely improving student outcomes. In this sense, the program serves a dual purpose: it empowers students to write more effectively while also strengthening teachers' pedagogical skills, which can have long-term benefits for educational quality.

Another noteworthy implication is the contrast between this program and recent research studies that primarily focus on statistical significance and experimental control. While many studies emphasize numerical data and highly controlled conditions, this community service program highlights instructional relevance and contextual effectiveness. Meaningful improvement in students'

²⁷ Teresa L. Flateby, ed., 'The Relationship Between Writing and Critical Thinking: Considerations For Assessment and Development', in *Improving Writing and Thinking Through Assessment*, 1st edn (Emerald Publishing Limited, 2011), <https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-60752-409-020251003>.

²⁸ Duker, Ivette. "Relationship Between Students' Ethnicity, Class Composition, Attention Allocation, and Primary School Teachers' Judgment Accuracy (Poster 26)." AERA 2024, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.3102/ip.24.2096970>.

writing was achieved even in a typical classroom environment, demonstrating that practical strategies aligned with students' developmental needs can yield substantial results without the need for complex experimental designs. This reinforces the idea that community-based educational interventions can be a valuable complement to traditional research, bridging theory and practice in real-world educational settings.²⁹

Finally, the program emphasizes the broader benefits of structured writing strategies beyond academic scores. The Listing Technique not only enhanced Arabic composition skills, including idea development, paragraph structure, and vocabulary use, but also fostered positive learner attitudes, motivation, and engagement. Students gained confidence in expressing their thoughts, which is critical for lifelong learning and language development. Teachers, in turn, were equipped with a practical tool that can be integrated into daily instruction, making the intervention sustainable and replicable. Overall, the findings confirm that the Listing Technique is an effective, practical, and adaptable strategy for improving Arabic writing skills, reinforcing the applicability of recent research while extending its relevance to community-based educational programs in Islamic schools.

CONCLUSION

The community service program implementing the Listing Technique has demonstrated significant and consistent improvement in students' Arabic composition (Inshā') skills. The results show that students progressed from limited writing ability, with an initial average score of 56.36, to substantial mastery, achieving an average score of 84.18 in the final stage. This improvement highlights the effectiveness of the Listing Technique in supporting idea generation, paragraph organization, and vocabulary development.

Beyond numerical scores, the program had important pedagogical and practical impacts. Students became more confident and engaged in writing, overcoming initial hesitation and anxiety. The technique provided a structured bridge between thinking and writing, enabling students to externalize ideas before composing full sentences and paragraphs. Teachers reported that the method was easy to implement, flexible, and adaptable to various topics, enhancing instructional practice and promoting sustainable use in the classroom.

²⁹ Geoffrey Maruyama and Stanley Deno, *Research in Educational Settings* (SAGE Publications, Inc., 1992), <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781412985680>.

Compared to recent studies on writing strategies in foreign and second languages, this program confirms that pre-writing techniques, particularly listing, are highly effective for young learners, even in community-based, real classroom settings. The program also illustrates that meaningful learning outcomes can be achieved without complex experimental designs, emphasizing practical relevance, contextual adaptation, and consistency.

Overall, the findings suggest that the Listing Technique is a practical, effective, and sustainable strategy for improving Arabic writing skills in primary education. It benefits both students, by enhancing writing ability and confidence, and teachers, by providing a feasible and impactful instructional tool, making it suitable for broader application in similar educational contexts.

Implication

The use of the Listing Technique has important implications for Arabic writing instruction, as it helps students generate ideas, organize paragraphs, and use vocabulary more effectively while reducing writing anxiety. This strategy is practical, easy to implement, and adaptable for regular classroom use, suggesting that structured pre-writing activities can significantly enhance both students' writing performance and confidence.

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