

ABSTRACT

QONITA NURHASANAH, 2025. **Writing Short Story as a Means of Developing Students' Creativity in Children's Literature Course.** English Education Department. Faculty of Teachers' Training and Educational Sciences. University of Siliwangi. Tasikmalaya.

This study explores the use of short story writing as a strategy to foster students' creativity in a Children's Literature course. Creativity is an important skill in literary studies, especially in courses that emphasize imagination, narrative construction, and student engagement. This study aims to investigate the benefits of students writing short stories to enhance creativity. Using a qualitative approach, data were collected through interviews with two participants who had taken the Children's Literature course, and the data were analyzed by thematic analysis. Findings suggest that students can develop four types of creativity. In the aspect of fluency or fluency in generating ideas within a limited time, students can demonstrate divergent thinking capacity by generating various story ideas quickly. This is reflected in the diversity of plots, characters, and settings developed in a short period during the writing process. Regarding flexibility in generating varied ideas, students demonstrate the ability to find ideas from various sources, including exploring multiple genres and storytelling perspectives. This ability shows openness and adaptability in creative thinking. Meanwhile, the originality of ideas is seen in the ability of students to create a unique story and reflect original personal experiences. Finally, in elaborating or developing ideas, students can develop initial ideas into complete stories with clear and detailed structures. They show how they process characters, settings, and conflicts with depth that supports the overall integration of the story. The study concludes that integrating creative writing assignments, such as short story writing, into literature courses can contribute significantly to the development of students' creativity and literary competence.

Keywords: Short story writing, students' creativity, children's literature, fluency, originality, flexibility, elaboration, higher education.