



## Educational Opinion Writing Webinar For Teachers

**Wahyu Fatihah<sup>1</sup>, Sonny Rohimat<sup>2</sup>, Dail Maruf<sup>3</sup>, Neli Fori Karliana<sup>4</sup>, Muhamad Alwi<sup>5</sup>, Dedeh Mayasari<sup>6</sup>, Muhyidin<sup>7</sup>**

SMA Negeri 4 Cilegon, Jln. Ki Kahal, Kec. Pulomerak, Kota Cilegon<sup>1</sup>, SMA Negeri 6 Kota Serang, Jln. Serang-Petir, Kec. Cipocok Jaya, Kota Serang<sup>2</sup>, SDIT Semesta Alam Madani, Jln. Empat Lima, Kec. Serang, Kota Serang<sup>3</sup>, Dinas Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Provinsi Banten, Jl. Syekh Moh. Nawawi Albantani, Kota Serang<sup>4</sup>, SMK Negeri 1 Cidaun, Jln. Pelabuhan Jayanti, Kec. Cidaun, Kab. Cianjur<sup>5</sup>, SMP Negeri 1 Kota Serang, Jl. KH Abdul Fatah Hasan, Kec. Serang, Kota Serang<sup>6</sup>, SMK Negeri 5 Kota Serang, Jln. Raya Gunungsari, Kec. Taktakan, Kota Serang<sup>7</sup>

---

### Article Info

#### Corresponding Author:

Name of Corresponding :

Wahyu Fatihah

E-mail:

[dewafatihah@gmail.com](mailto:dewafatihah@gmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

The literacy competency that is being intensively promoted by the Ministry of Education and Culture is not only aimed at students, but also at their teachers. Following up on this, IGI Kota Serang held a webinar with the theme of improving the ability of teachers to write opinions at various levels of education. The aim of the webinar is to increase teacher competency in literacy, especially in the field of writing, which will be followed up with the publication of an opinion anthology book in the field of education. The steps taken in implementing the webinar activities are forming a committee, looking for resource persons, preparing webinar requirements, socializing activities, implementing activities, as well as evaluation and reflection. Based on the results of evaluation and reflection, the implementation of the webinar went smoothly but there were a few obstacles in sending the certificate because the documents sent exceeded the capacity of the Autocrat add-on.

#### Keywords:

Opinion writing webinar, Online teacher discussion in Serang City, Indonesian Teachers Association, Teacher literacy competency.

---

This is an open access article under the [CC BY-NC](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/) license



---

## INTRODUCTION

Education aims to increase the potential of students to become superior people, who have competitiveness both locally, nationally and internationally (Anggraini, et all. 2022). Article 3 of Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System states that the development of the potential of students to become human beings who believe and are devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and become democratic citizens and responsible, (Riowati, et al. 2022). To achieve all this, quality education is needed that is in line with current developments (Sonia, 2022).

Efforts to improve the quality of education cannot be separated from the role of a teacher. Even though teachers are not the only ones, teachers are often referred to as the front guard in improving the quality of a nation's education. The role of teachers is very influential in improving the quality of national education, so teachers must be professional in

carrying out their duties (Yasin, et al. 2023). Therefore, teacher competence in various matters needs to be improved, considering the increasingly rapid development of science and technology. One of these competencies is literacy competency, especially in writing.

The literacy competency that is being intensively promoted by the Ministry of Education and Culture is not only aimed at students. Teachers who play an active role in the learning process must be actively involved in literacy competencies. Improving literacy competence cannot be separated from the teacher's ability to express it in written form. By writing, teachers are required to read a lot as reference material for the writing they will write. So, reading a lot will broaden your horizons and increase your teacher's competence. However, not all teachers are able to express their thoughts in written form. So motivation and training are needed so that teachers can produce work in written form.

In order to support the performance and improve the competence of government teachers, in this case the Ministry of Education and Culture has prepared a platform whose main aim is to accommodate everything teachers need to improve the quality of national education. The platform is the Merdeka Mengajar Platform or known as PMM. This platform exists as an application to improve quality and also make it easier for teachers to teach according to students' abilities (Ramdani, 2022).

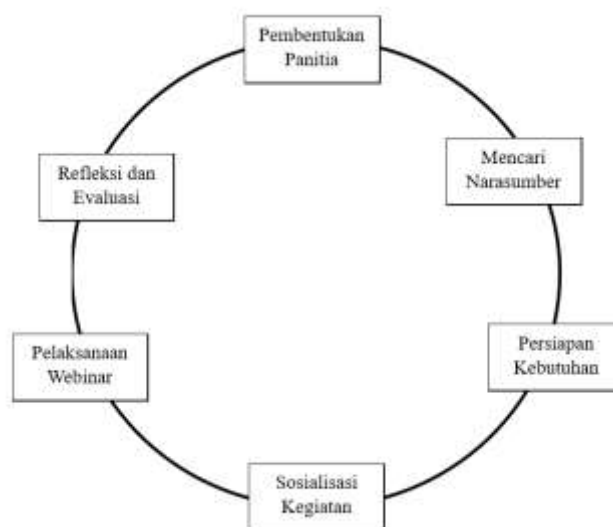
Starting in 2024, all teachers must upload their learning plans in the form of proof of performance in the performance planning contained in the PMM. Proof of performance is not only in the form of certificates of training and activity results, but also many in the form of reports, both performance reports, as well as reports of other additional duties, namely as deputy principal, supervisor of extracurricular activities, homeroom teacher, head of library, head of laboratory and other additional duties. . Thus, this requires the teacher's ability to be able to write in order to make performance reports well and correctly in accordance with applicable rules.

The fourth webinar initiated by the Indonesian Teachers Association (IGI) of Serang City was presented with the theme of improving the ability of teachers to write opinions at various levels of education. The webinar series has also been programmed into PMM activities so that webinar activities are carried out in official institutions. This activity was carried out via webinar with the aim of reaching teachers from various regions and from various levels of education. The aim of the webinar is to increase teacher competence in literacy, especially in the field of writing. In implementing the webinar activities, teachers are expected to be motivated and able to write opinions in the field of education. Furthermore, the committee facilitates opinion writing that has been written to be published in the form of an anthology book.

## METHODS

A periodic webinar activity initiated by the Regional Management of the Indonesian Teachers Association (IGI) of Serang City is called the Serang City Online Teacher Discussion or Digdakser. The webinar was carried out virtually using the Zoom Meetings platform. The webinar was carried out considering time, distance, and facilities available on the Merdeka Mengajar Platform (Rohimat & Najarudin, 2022). Webinar activities can be accessed by teachers from various regions and from various levels of education. This activity was held on January 26 2024 by presenting four resource persons who were educators and literacy activists. The four sources are Neli Fori Karliana, Muhamad Alwi, Dail Maruf, and Wahyu Fatimah.

In holding the Fourth Digidakser Series webinar, there were several steps taken by the Serang City IGI Regional Management. The first step is the formation of a committee consisting of the movers or administrators of the Serang City IGI. These steps can be described as a cycle as presented in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.**Steps for Organizing a Webinar

Based on the cycle in Figure 1. So the steps taken in implementing the webinar activity are as follows:

1. Formation of the Fourth Digidakser Series webinar committee consisting of Serang City IGI Regional Management
2. Looking for sources relevant to the theme raised, namely "Pouring Thoughts Through Writing, Cool Teachers Arrange Opinions". To facilitate coordination, resource persons were gathered in one Whatsapp group.
3. Prepare webinar needs such as outreach materials or flyers, Zoom Meetings links, attendance registration links, certificate designs, and so on.
4. Carrying out socialization of activities through the Merdeka Mengajar Platform and social media. To make it easier to convey further information, registrants are gathered in one Whatsapp group.
5. Carry out webinar activities according to the planned schedule and platform.
6. Carry out evaluation and reflection on activities.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The fourth series of Digidakser webinars will be held on Friday 26 January 2024. Activities start from 13.00 WIB to 15.30 WIB. The number of participants, which was initially predicted to be only a few hundred people, turned out to be more than a thousand people. Participants are generally teachers from various regions in Indonesia with various levels of education. Acting as host and moderator was Dedeh Mayasari, a teacher at SMP Negeri 1 Serang City who is active as an IGI Serang City administrator.

The first resource person who also acted as the keynote speaker was Neli Foli Karlina who is the High School Supervisor at the Banten Province Education and Culture Service. Before becoming a school supervisor, he was Head of the PP IGI Literacy Division for 2021-2022. In his speech he expressed his full support for this activity. He provided motivation and really emphasized the importance of improving literacy competencies for teachers, especially

writing skills. By writing, teachers are encouraged to read a lot to increase scientific insight (Rasidi & Susetiyo, 2023). Teachers must continue to innovate in the learning process, so that it is not eroded by developments over time. In order for the learning process to have an impact on others, it must be documented in writing.

The discussion regarding opinion writing techniques was discussed by the second resource person, namely Muhammad Alwi. He is the Head of SMK Negeri 1 Cidaun which is located in the southern part of Cianjur Regency, West Java, and actively writes opinions on online media portals based in West Java. In his presentation he discussed How to Write Opinions in the Education Field for Beginners and Tips for Successful Writing. According to him, there are several steps you need to know before writing an opinion, namely choosing an interesting and relevant topic, conducting research, creating an outline, writing the opinion in language that is easy to understand, and revising the article before publishing. The five tips for successful writing that he conveyed were reading a lot, being enthusiastic about expressing ideas, eliminating feelings of fear, creating self-anxiety, and consistently writing in one medium. Webinar documentation is presented in Figure 2.

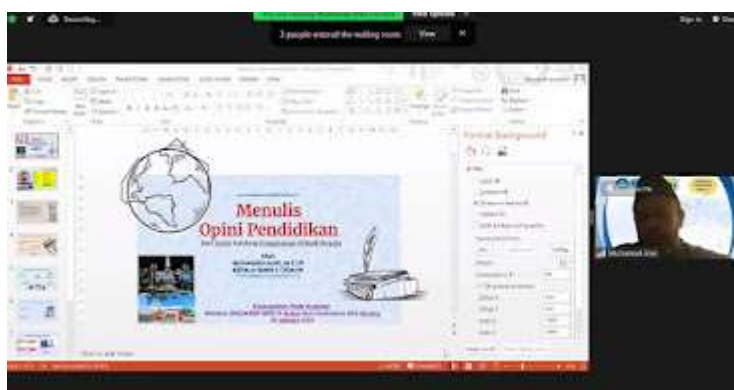


Figure 2. Educational Opinion Writing Webinar

Muhamad Alwi also emphasized that you should not hesitate or be afraid to write. Even though the writing produced is not as good as other people's writing, because it all requires a process. The theme of writing an opinion can start from the environment where you live and school, from simple problems that need to be discussed to be discussed in general. According to him, there is no such thing as bad writing, but our own minds judge that the writing we write is bad. He also said that self-confidence is needed to publish writing that has been written so that it is more useful.

The third resource person is Dail Maruf, a literacy activist who is an editor at an online media portal. Dail Maruf is also the Chair of the Semesta Alam Foundation which oversees Kindergarten level schools and Integrated Islamic Primary Schools. He delivered Opinion Article material from a Media Point of View. According to Dail, there are several things that must be considered when writing opinion articles. First, articles written by teachers to convey their ideas or write about an event will be very useful for students and the public in general. Second, when writing an article, you must create an interesting title so that readers are encouraged to open the news. Third, use the 4W and 1 H formula in creating articles, namely what, why, when, where and how (Zahra, Hadawiah & Muttaqin, 2022). Fourth, by creating opinions in online media, the digital footprint of an event will be eternal and easy to access again, just type the title, then the news/opinion will appear. By implementing these steps, teachers or anyone else will be able to create articles that attract readers' attention.

Apart from that, Dail Maruf also delivered a presentation about the perspective of writing in terms of the additional income opportunities he had while managing online media. The opportunity for additional income comes from advertisements that accompany articles on the online media that he manages, the results of which can reach millions of rupiah every month. According to Dail Maruf, writing makes teachers "more advanced in class", meaning that teachers who can write will increase their competence and will become better known through their writing. Their writing will be read by various parties and become reference material for other writing.

The webinar was concluded by the presentation of the last resource person, namely Wahyu Fatihah, regarding good practices in publishing writings and articles in books and journals. He explained the reasons and how to publish writing through various publishers. According to him, there are several reasons why it is important for a teacher to publish writing, including to disseminate ideas and research results, increase the body of knowledge, develop science and technology, improve the reputation of an institution, improve a nation's competitiveness, increase the writer's achievements, and provide personal satisfaction. There are several things that need to be considered so that the writing can be published as a book, namely determining the theme, making a writing framework, making subpoints, writing a clear plot, adapting the manuscript to the book format, and ensuring that it is novelty.

As additional insight, Wahyu Fatihah also conveyed his experience in publishing various writings both in the form of books and scientific journals. He also explained the types of book publishers along with the procedures for accessing each publisher, as well as the steps for publishing a book. The teacher, whose writing has been published in several solo books and anthology books, both fiction and non-fiction, also stated that there is satisfaction when the writing he has written can be published in a certain publisher or journal. Reflections on activities are carried out by webinar participants by filling in the attendance registration form which is sent using the Google Form link. Based on the reflection form, the majority of participants gave positive responses to the webinar held. In general, participants said that they gained a lot of knowledge, insight and inspiration.

However, in this webinar there were also problems in sending certificates which were sent to participants' email addresses using the Autocrat add-on. Some participants did not receive certificates automatically. This is because the number of participants filling out the attendance list exceeds the sending capacity, namely 1,500 documents per day. Even though the Zoom capacity used was only 1,000 people, the number of participants who filled out the attendance list was more than 2,600 people. Following up on this, the committee sent a certificate drive link via the participants' Whatsapp group so that they could download their respective certificates.

## CONCLUSION

The opinion writing webinar activity in the field of education organized by IGI Serang City went smoothly. Based on the reflection form, the majority of participants gave positive responses to the webinar held. In general, participants said that they gained a lot of knowledge, insight and inspiration. Even though there were problems with sending automatic certificates via email due to exceeding capacity, the committee was able to complete sending certificates via the Drive link sent to the participants' Whatsapp group.

## REFERENCE

- Anggraini, D. L., Yulianti, M., Nurfaizah, S., & Pandiangan, A. P. B. (2022). Peran guru dalam mengembangkan kurikulum merdeka. *Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan dan Sosial*, 1(3), 290-298.
- Hamzah, A. (2019). *Metode Penelitian & Pengembangan, Research & Development*. Malang: Literasi Indonesia.
- Ramdani, M., Yuliyanti, S. Y., Rahmatulloh, I. T., & Suratman, S. (2022). Penggunaan Platform merdeka mengajar (PMM) pada guru sekolah dasar. *Journal of Instructional and Development Researches*, 2(6), 248-254.
- Riowati, R., & Yoenanto, N. H. (2022). Peran guru penggerak pada merdeka belajar untuk memperbaiki mutu pendidikan di Indonesia. *Journal of Education and Instruction (JOEAI)*, 5(1), 1-16.
- Rasidi, M. A., & Susetiyo, A. (2023). Pemanfaatan Pojok Baca Dalam Gerakan Literasi Sekolah. *Nidhomiyah: Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan Islam*, 4(2), 129-137.
- Rohimat, S., & Najarudin. (2022). Webinar Strategi Penyelesaian Pelatihan Mandiri Kurikulum Merdeka Pada Platform Merdeka Mengajar. *Jurnal Abdimas Kartika Wijayakusuma*, 3(2), 94-102.
- Rohimat, S., Susilo, D., Najarudin, N., Putri, N., Hanum, M., & Siallagan, A. (2023). Seri Webinar Isomer: Berbagi Praktik Baik Pembelajaran Inovatif. *Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat Indonesia SEAN (ABDIMAS SEAN)*, 1(02), 40-45.
- Sonia, N. R. (2022). Strategi Pengembangan Mutu Lembaga Pendidikan di Era Globalisasi. *Edukatif: Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan*, 4(3), 4429-4443.
- Yasin, M., Rosaliana, R., & Habibah, S. R. N. (2023). Peran Guru di Sekolah dan Masyarakat. *DIAJAR: Jurnal Pendidikan dan Pembelajaran*, 2(3), 382-389.
- Zahra, N., Hadawiah, H., & Muttaqin, A. (2022). Analysis Of The Content Of The Objectivity Of Covid-19 Reports On Tribuntimur. com March–August 2021 Edition. *RESPON JURNAL ILMIAH MAHASISWA ILMU KOMUNIKASI*, 3(1).