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Engaging with Literature Creatively

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PREFACE

The theme of this year's seminar: "Engaging with Literature Creatively" highlights the crucial role of literature in the language discipline and society because of the many benefits it offers.

The purpose of the seminar is to enhance literary awareness, as awareness of literature still obtains a small segment in English teaching, especially in Indonesia. We all know that Literature can be a powerful tool for teaching, building and transforming individuals and communities, yet little has been done to improve the experience for readers and maximize the impacts of texts by exploring innovative approaches and the way they are implemented.

We would like to offer our appreciation to all invited speakers (Prof. Alan Maley, Prof. Jayakaran Mukundan, and Prof. Kirk Branch), paper and workshop presenters, and participants who are taking part in this seminar. We are grateful to have financial supports from our generous sponsors which have made this seminar possible. Finally, the seminar would not have been running without the support of hard-working and dedicated committee members and students of the Faculty of Language and Literature. It is their commitment that made the preparation of this event a very rewarding and humbling learning experience for me.

This publication presents some of the unedited full papers of the 8th International Seminar's participants. We do hope that these papers will enrich our understanding and deepen our insights on issues surrounding literature awareness.

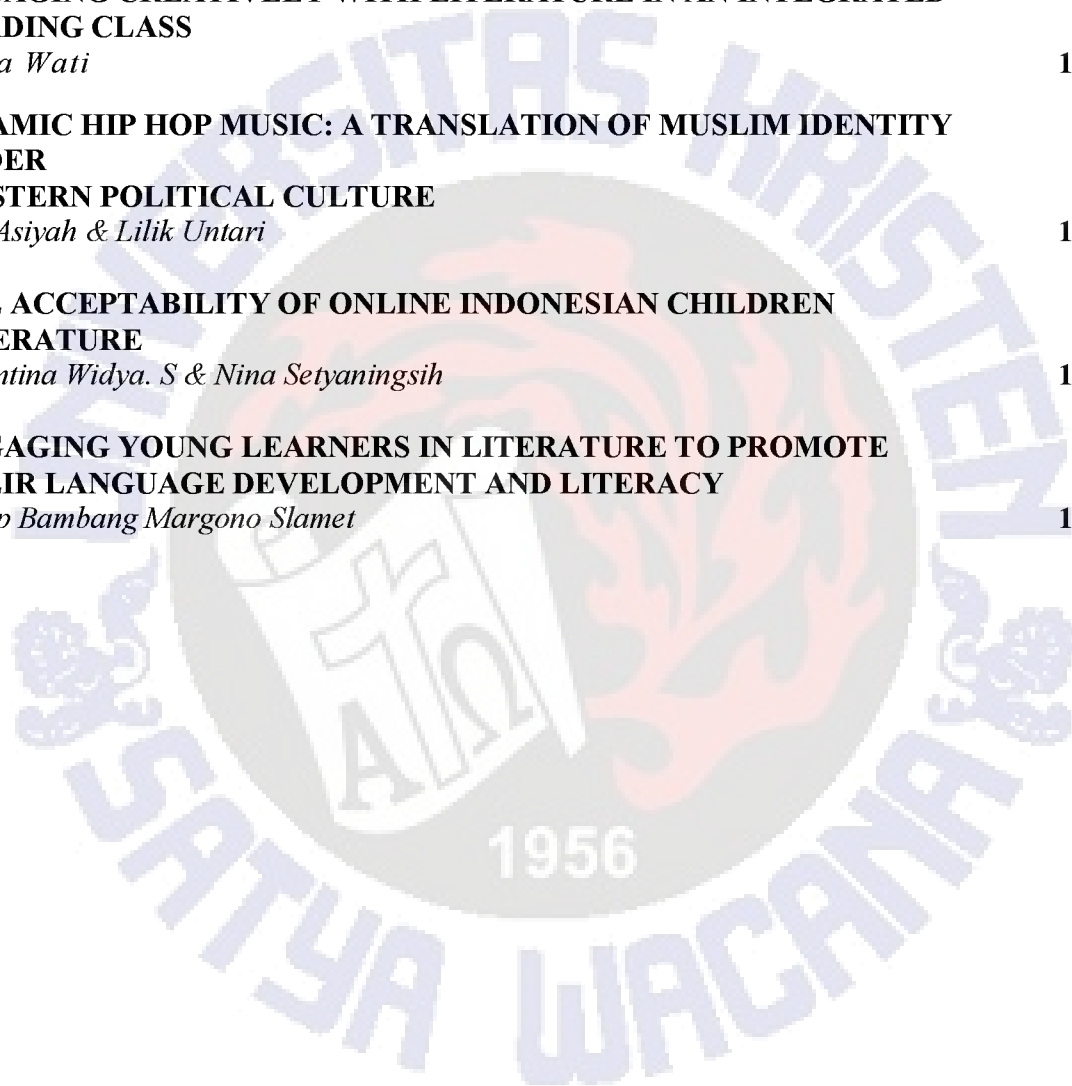
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CREATIVE WRITINGS: SIX-WORD SHORT STORIES BEHIND THE TAILGATES OF TRUCKS

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ABSTRACT

Hemingway made a breakthrough against the rules of the novel when he came up with his six-word short story. **For sale: Baby shoes, never worn.** Using only six words, he was able to engage readers' attention on creating an opened outline of a narrative construct by viewing the situations in a chronological plot design of what had happened, what is happening, and what will happen to who might be involved in this situation, the ones could be said as the characters of this six-words story; one of them obviously would be the baby itself. Hemmingway's short story style seems to be popular in Indonesia even without fully awareness by the Indonesian. This is a phenomenal issue in Indonesia, which can be considered as part of creativity and entertainment, as creative fun writings are easily found behind the tailgates or mud guards of the trucks. "**Anda butuh waktu, kami butuh uang**" (You need time, we need money) is one of the writing popular written behind the truck triggering questions like who 'you' and 'we' refer to? Why you need money and we need money? What had happened between 'you' and 'we'? How do 'you' and 'we' compromise at the end? This six-word writing has created a narrative structure, which context has probably been understood by Indonesians. This article is about writings behind the trucks, which composing stories creatively. The plot structures and the implicit messages will be analyzed through the choice of the words in the writings.

Keywords: six-word short story, writings, plot structures.

INTRODUCTION

Since long time ago, literature has become a part of the culture, which is always expanding following the movement years and centuries. Everyone brings the different subjective or point of view of what an author has written. Wellek and Warren (1956:15) states that literature cannot be 'studied' at all. We can only read, enjoy, and appreciate it. Stories can be divided into short stories, novel, or novella. The divisions are classified based