

**EXPLORING STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
"GRAMMARLY SOFTWARE" IN WRITING THESIS**

SKRIPSI

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Menyatakan dengan sebenarnya bahwa skripsi yang ditulis dengan judul *"Exploring Students' Perception on the Effectiveness of "Grammarly Software" in Writing Thesis"* untuk memperoleh gelar Sarjana Pendidikan merupakan hasil karya saya sendiri. Apabila di kemudian hari terbukti atau dapat dibuktikan bahwa skripsi ini adalah hasil jiplakan, maka saya bersedia menerima segala sanksi yang diberikan atas perbuatan saya tersebut.

Langsa, 30Th April 2024

Yang membuat pernyataan



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Finally, the researcher hopes this thesis could provide valuable and useful information for readers. The researcher sincerely appreciates all critics and suggestions.

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ABSTRACT

T Dea Ramadani, 2024. "Exploring Students' Perception on the Effectiveness of "Grammarly Software" in Writing Thesis".
Supervisor (1). Nina Afrida, M.Pd (2). Wahidah, M.Ed

The aim of this study was to To find out students' perception on the effectiveness of Grammarly Software in helping them in writing and t o investigate the aspects of academic writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software. In this study, the researcher applied qualitative method. The researcher decided to implement structured interview to gain the data. Based on the finding, According to the students perception, this software is really helpful in writting due to acomplish their thesis . the software helps them in several points, such as automatic correction, free in accessibility and useful feedback. moreover, Based on the interview result, The aspects of writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software are :vocabulary, grammar and writing mechanism.

Keywords : *Grammarly, Academic writting, perception*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

In a university, it cannot be denied that writing thesis is crucial for students. Generally, the final project is a research thesis that must be completed by students for regarding the degree. It is because the project is a link in the process of developing students' capability. Huiyun claims that graduation thesis is an important practice that can help the university students deepen and widen their professional knowledge, and cultivate their scientific thinking and methods preliminarily.¹

Baley states that academic writing refers to writing which done in academic courses. The term "academic" refers to formal education, such as at a school, university, or college. Common types of academic writing can frequently be found in students' nments, even if they are graduate students.²

In writing a thesis each student has differences in choosing the theme, title, methodology, and type of research that will be used in the research process because each study program in university has differences in the field of science taught. Also, writing a thesis depends on the study program taken, it means a thesis made by the students that related to their study program

¹ He, Kai, and Feng Huiyun., "*A Path to Democracy: In Search of China's Democratization Model*", Asian Perspective 32 (3): 139–169 (2008)

² Bailey, S, "Academic Writing. *A Handbook for International Students.*", (New York: Routledge, 2011), p.3

must have a connection and not deviate far from the field of their study program.

Furthermore, in writing thesis it is obviously need so many ideas and also mechanism in writing. It means that not only connecting the ideas but also need to collaborate them to other aspects in writing. especially when it deals with grammar. Students from English Department themselves can also experience this. In college, students need to write with considered to the accuracy of grammar. According to Cavaleri and Dianati , Grammatical accuracy is very important for their academic writing in order to express their ideas clearly, accurately, and precisely³.

In writing an academic text, it is expected that the students follow recognized English grammar conventions, such as accurate sentence structure, correct subjectverb agreement, consistent and appropriate tenses, and correct use of articles. However, as mentioned above students are still have difficulties in this matter because their writing skill is still on the development path and their choice of linguistic may not always be accurate or successful.⁴

Karyuatry, Rizkan, and Darayani argue that students must be aware of a variety of grammatical rules, ranging from sentence structure and forms to the usage of articles, in terms of developing their writing ideas.

³ Michelle Cavaleri, and Saib Dianati, “*You Want Me to Check Your Grammar Again? The Usefulness of an Online Grammar Checker as Perceived by Students*” *Journal of Academic Language & Learning*,10(1) (2016),p.244.

⁴ Michelle Cavaleri, and Saib Dianati,, p.244.

Students may become confused and demotivated to study writing as a result of its difficulties.⁵

Since writing, especially writing an English thesis has become a problem for university students, the students believe that there must be a checker that is hoped to give correction on their poverty in grammar.

Sabarun argues that providing corrective feedback to learners is an important part of the learning process in the context of L2 writing. Corrective feedback from teachers can help students reduce grammatical errors, improve writing abilities, and make composition writing easier.⁶ Students can now get feedback not only from their teachers, but also from several online grammar checkers that are available on the internet.

In IAIN Langsa, there are many students aware their lack of grammar. They feel difficult to find appropriate vocabulary, tenses, or to put the punctuations at the right place, and mostly they have problems with grammar. Even they involved in english for many semesters, they still confused and do so much grammar mistakes in writing. Because of that problem, many English Students of IAIN Langsa decided to utilize online grammar checker, namely grammarly.

Grammarly is a popular online grammar checking website today. Many students in schools and universities use this grammar checker to check the

⁵ L Karyuatry, M. D. A. Rizqan,, and N. A. Darayani, “Grammarly as A Tool to Improve Students’ Writing Quality”: Free-Online Proofreader Acroos the Boundaries. *Edulitics Journal*, 3(1)(2018), p.83.

⁶Sabarun, “The Influence of Different Types of Feedback on Learner’s Writing Performance At Higher Education”.Proceeding of International Conference On English Language Teaching (INACELT), 3(1), 205-206 (2019), P.1

errors. Neill and Russel state that one of University in Australia chooses Grammarly as a tool in providing grammar feedback. This software is commonly used because it is easy to use.⁷ Furthermore, the features of Grammarly are also complete. Not only check grammatical errors, but Grammarly also provides a feature of spelling to identify spelling mistakes. It could detect over 250 grammatical and spelling errors.

Based on the problem above, the researcher really interest to know The students' perceptions of Grammarly. so, the researcher decided to conduct a research entitle **“EXPLORING STUDENTS’ PERCEPTION ONTHE EFFECTIVENESS OF “GRAMMARLY SOFTWARE” IN WRITING THESIS.**

B. Problem Formulation

1. How do students perceive the effectiveness of Grammarly Software in helping them in writing?
2. What aspects of writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software?

C. Objective of the study

Based on the problem formulation, the objective of the study, are :

1. To find out students' perception on the effectiveness of Grammarly Software in helping them in writing

⁷ Ruth O'Neill, and Alex M.T. Russell, “ Stop! Grammar Time: University Student's Perceptions of The Automated Feedback Program Grammarly” *Australasian Journal of Educational Technology*. 35(1)(2019), p.42

2. To investigate the aspects of academic writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software.

D. Significance of the study

1. Theoretical significance

Theoretically, this research can assist the future researchers. This is because there is possibility that another interesting phenomenon will arise after the results of this study are presented. The interesting phenomenon can be the basis to conduct further research that is more specific.

2. Practical Significance

This study provides some detail information concerning with the student perceptions on the effectiveness of Grammarly Application toward students' writing ability. It is expected to be an additional information for educational field in exploring a great way to assist student in writing ability.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

A. Research Finding

In exploring the data, the researcher implemented interview. there are 14 questions that had been delivered to the respondent. The interview was be held on 8th – 10th Agust, 2023. The researcher served 11 questions which were related to research problem. The duration of the interview process was 15 minutes per session. There are 5 respondets. They were all alumni of english department at IAIN Langsa. They are IS, CK, AA, SR, and RU. The finding can be seen below:

1. Students perceive the effectiveness of Grammarly Software in helping them in writing

Based on the answer of the interviewee, all alumni of english department have shared their opinions after they decided in using the Grammarly software.

In this case, all the alumni agree that grammarly is really helpful. CK, as one of them said that “It’s really helpful”. According to the data, these alumni have experience regarding this software.

Moreover, the researcher have summarized those benefits into many points, which were automatic correction, free in accessibility and useful feedback.

a. Automatic correction

The first benefit of using grammarly in writing thesis is the automatic correction. IS, CK, AA, SR, and RU as the participants believe that the automatic correction really help them. IS, said “Based on my experience, it’s really useful, to correct my own writing if its gramatical is true or not without asking with people” in case with that, AA also stated “the strength is it’s useful as i said that grammarly can show my errors automatically and then, i will fix it by the fitur of grammarly”. Not only those opinions, sri also said “the strength is it’s help me so much to correct my mistake so that i do not wasting my time. useful as i said that grammarly can show my errors automatically and then, i will fix it by the fitur of grammarly”.

Based on those responds, it can be seen that all the alumni agreed that automatic correction is crucial and helpful for in writing thesis.

b. Free in accessibility

The second benefit is free in accessibility. The participants namely IS, CK, AA, SR, and RU believe that it is really helpful. RU said “the strength is we can use free version which serves many fitur that we need the most” in line with risa, CK also told “the strength is we can access it in variety devices such as laptop, handphone,computer, and tablet”.

According the answers, there is no doubt that Free accessibility is one of the advantages Even though there is premium version, but the free

version also helpful for the students in using the chance of accessing Grammarly for free from the company.

c. useful feedback

The third is useful feedback. The all participants agree that feedback that given by Grammarly is useful. IS, in the interview session said “i think it is extremely useful. By those feedback i know why it was incorrect and i know how should i fixed it” intan, as the participant also believe that. She stated “i think it gives so many benefits. I can fix my problem by my self and learn a lot” .

Regarding those answers, there is no doubt that feedback that is given by Grammarly useful enough for the students by accessing all the features of it.

2. The aspects of writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software

There are so many aspect in writing. In improving writing skill, there are five components of writing namely: content, organization, vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics.⁴¹ Based on the interview result, here are the aspects of writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software, as follow

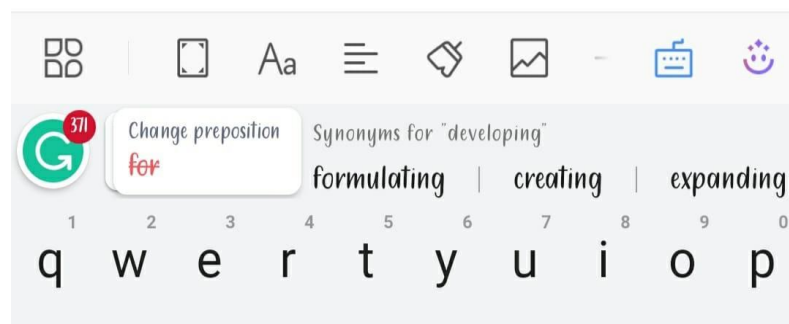
a. Vocabulary

All the respondents MA, SR, RU, IS, CK believes that Grammarly improve their vocabulary in writing. IS stated “Yeah, it offers synonym of

⁴¹ J.B Heaton, *Writing English Language Test (new edition)*. (Longman Inc. New York, 1998), p. 148.

the words”. CK also told “Yeah, sometimes it offers many word that more appropriate”. It can be seen as follow :

ject is a research thesis that must be completed by students for regarding
because the project is a link in the process of developing students' capabi
s that graduation thesis is an important practice that can help the univer
pen Teks lengkap: 33240 professional knowledge, and cultivate their scien

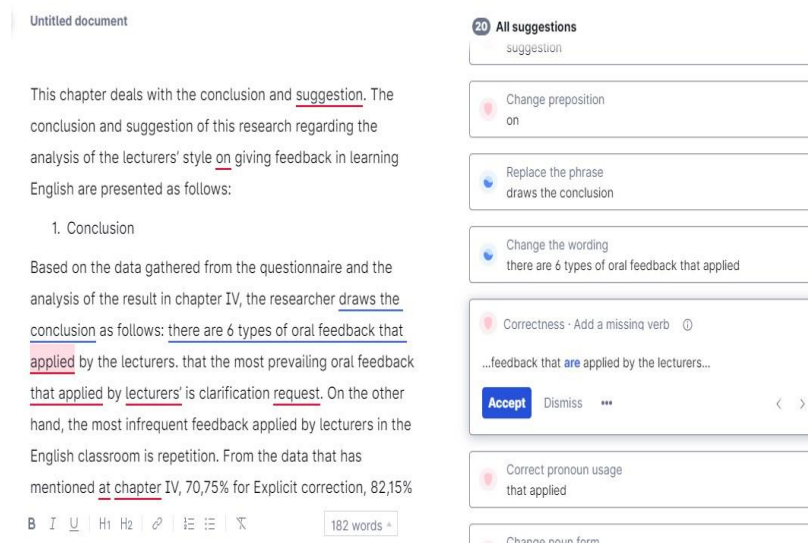


Picture 4.1

Based on the picture, it shows that grammarly offer the synonym of word. So, it is believable that grammarly is helpful in grammar as an aspect of writing.

b. Grammar

Those respondents MA, SR, RU, IS, CK also strongly believe that grammar checker fitur in grammarly help them so much. When the researcher asked about the most useful fitur, CK, IS, and AA stated that “Grammar checker, and writing mechanism” as the most useful fitur. It can be seen as follow:



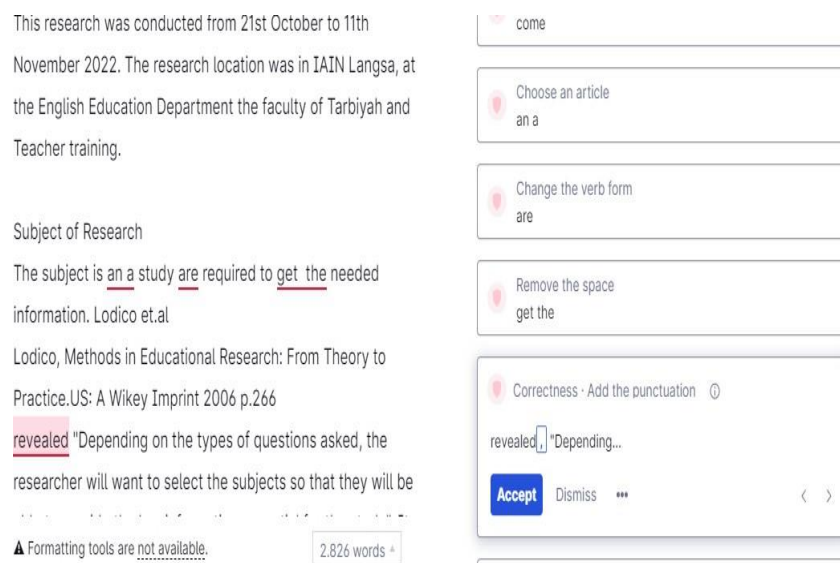
Picture 4.2

Based on the picture, one of the students mistake is on the sentence “... that applied by lecturer is clarrification request”. Than, the grammarly provide a correction to put the word “are” as the form of passive voice.

According to the previous explanation, the alumni absolutely believe that the grammarly really helpful for them. In addition, grammarly also can be solution to help students whenever they need help for grammar checking.

c. Mechanism

All the respondents had assumption that grammarly gave the correction of writing mechanism. SR and RU agreed that mechanism in writing can be corrected by grammarly. they told “Yes, mechanism in writing like a punctuation”



Picture 4.3

Based on the picture, the grammarly software was correcting the mistake on, that is punctuation. This app offer to put comma among the words. Of course, all the students believe that this app is really crucial to aware the students' writing error mechanism in writing.

B. Discussion

Based on the data which was gathered by implemting the interview, all students have shared their opinions after they decided in using the Grammarly software. All of the interviewee believed that Grammarly is useful and really helpful in automatic correction, free accessibility, and give feedback for them in writing thesis.

Firstly, is automatic correction. Based on the data, it can be seen that all the alumni agreed that automatic correction is crucial and helpful for in writing thesis. Automatic correction is really helpful for the students. By automatic

correction system, the students would get feedback easily, without having a meeting with their teacher or exploring in many books. Of course, this way was really crucial in assisting students in order to arrange their academic writing which is commonly has a deadline to do with.

Secondly, is free accessibility. According to the answers, there is no doubt that free accessibility is one of the advantages. Even though there is a premium version, but the free version is also helpful for the students in using the chance of accessing Grammarly for free from the company. Free means that the student has a right to use the application in any device and without cost for the free version. Most students were not lucky to have great financial support so that this app had served many support that was needed by the students during writing. It is really helpful for the students. Moreover, free can be seen as the freedom whenever and wherever to be used. In this era, we cannot just sit in front of a computer and be wrapped by wires. There are so many wireless devices to utilize this app in improving writing.

Thirdly, is useful feedback. All participants agree that feedback that is given by Grammarly is useful. Regarding those answers, there is no doubt that feedback that is given by Grammarly is useful enough for the students by accessing all the features of it. Feedback can be a medium for students' self-correction in the future.⁴² It means that by accepting feedback that is provided by Grammarly, the student will learn more and lead themselves to learn autonomy.

⁴²M. Tolkhah Adityas, *The Effect of Teacher's Feedback in Speaking Class on Students' Learning Experience*, (Sanata Dharma University: Yogyakarta, 2008), 16.

In addition, grammarly also help students to improve aspect in writing they are vocabulary, grammar and mechanism. These aspect is really crucial in writing.

Based on the finding, the first aspect is vocabulary. All the respondents believes that grammarly improve their vocabulary in writing. For example, by providing synonym, of course student can choose the appropriate word to apply in their writing. This make student easier to know any words with the same meaning but most appropriate. As we know, to make a good writing, the writermust know the aspects of writing. The aspect of writing cannot be understand easily. It has many principles and the explanation from their lecturer. As a human, of course, lecturer has their own life to be spent. It is impossible to contact with their lecturers when they get problems. By this app, the student can take advantage as much as they need.

The second is grammar. . According to the previous explanation, the alumni absolutely believe that the grammarly really helpful for them. In addition, grammarly also can be solution to help students whenever they need help for grammar checking. Grammar is known as the most difficult aspect in writing for students. Student need to analyze a word, a sentece, to make sure the if the grammar was correct. It waste time. By using grammarly, now student can learn and fix their problem easily.

The last is mechanism. all the students believe that this app is really crucial to aware the students' writing error mechanism in writing. Mechanism in writing is not assimple as what we think. There are so many rules about

punctuation and others. But, in grammarly, this app will detect the mistake and offer the solution with description. Of course it's really helpful in writing thesis

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

1. According to the students perception, this software is really helpful in writting due to acomplish their thesis . the software helps them in several points, such as automatic correction, free in accessibility and useful feedback.
2. Based on the interview result, The aspects of writing can be improved by using Grammarly Software are :vocabulary, grammar and writing mechanism.

B. Suggestion

1. For students, they can apply the application for assisting them in correction their writing. Students can utilize both free Grammarly and premium. I suggest students would use the Grammarly premium which has more complex features.
2. For lectures, I expect that the findings will be a good option for lecture to choose Grammarly as a supporting tool in checking students' assignments, tasks and works

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