

Perspectives Of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities

SKRIPSI

submitted

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Degree (S1)

Study Program : English Education Department

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THE MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

STATE INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES LANGSA

2024 M/1445 H

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION

Perspectives Of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities

Skripsi

Has been defended in sidang Munaqasyah by the board of Examiners and has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of requirements for sarjana pendidikan (S.Pd) in English Department of Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty

on:

Monday, 29 July 2024 M

23 Muharram 1446 H

Board of Examiners :

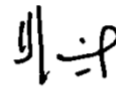
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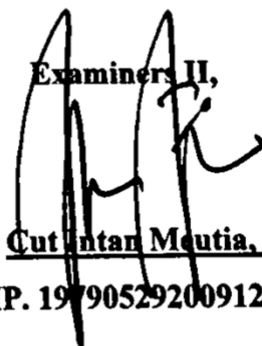
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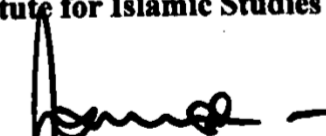


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Perspectives Of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities

Submitted to the Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty

State Institute of Islamic Studies Langsa as Fulfilment of the Requirements

For the Degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan (S.Pd)* of English Education

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Menyatakan dengan sebenarnya bahwa skripsi yang ditulis dengan judul **“Perspectives of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities”** merupakan hasil karya sendiri. Apabila di kemudian hari terbukti bahwa skripsi ini adalah hasil jiplakan, maka saya bersedia menerima segala sanksi yang diberikan atas perbuatan saya tersebut.

Demikian surat pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sebenar-benarnya.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Alhamdulillah rabil ‘alamin, the researcher gives Allah subhanahu wa ta’ala the utmost thanks for providing me with the chance, love, blessings, health, and mercy to finish my undergraduate thesis entitled “Perspectives of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities” that is presented as the last prerequisite for completing an Undergraduate Degree (S-1) in the English Department of Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty, State Institute for Islamic Langsa Studies. The Shalawat series of welcomes is always poured forth to the Prophet Muhammad SAW', as well as his friends and family, who have taken mankind from an uncivilized realm to this world of civilization.

This paper would not have been possible to complete without the support, assistance, guidance and advice from various parties during the preparation activities. Therefore, on this occasion the author expresses his sincere thanks to:

1. Prof.Dr. Ismail Fahmi Arrauf Nasution, M.A as Chancellor of the State Institute of Islamic Studies Langsa;
2. Dr. Amiruddin, MA as the Dean of the Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training at State Institute of Islamic Studies Langsa;
3. as Chair of English Department of Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty at State Institute of Islamic Studies Langsa;
4. Mr. Fachrurrazi,M.Hum and Mrs. Shafrida Wati, MA as supervisors who have provided guidance to the author in completing this paper;
5. The lecturers and educational staff at Tarbiyah and Teacher Training Faculty, State Institute of Islamic Studies Langsa who have provided knowledge and services while the writer was completing her studies;
6. My beloved parents, Mustafa- my father. He is the greatest hero that God has given me. A great father who was willing to sacrifice to finance my life from the time I was born until I was able to pursue education until I reached a

bachelor's degree (S1). His faith, responsibility and hard work for his family have given me great encouragement and for my beloved mother Siti Aisyah, the most beautiful mother in the world who is always supportive and always there for me and is the most comfortable place for me to tell all my feeling that I feel. Thank you for the endless prayers that are always given to me. I am one of the luckiest children in the world because I have parents like you. Also my lovely siblings Mutia Sari Pratiwi and Fadhil Nugraha Mustafa who really motivated me from being a good and inspirative sister for them, my cutest nephew Rayyan Gaffi Assauki who cheers me up when I feel tired. I do love my family. Also my lovely cousin Indah Sari Br.Keliat who has helped me in completing this thesis.

7. My wonderful friends, Suci Rahmayani who always accompany me to campus and being my sharing friend. Nurkhalisa who always reminds and take care of me, Desrianda Fitri who always be there whenever I need a help, Mumut and Dela who accompany me to finish my thesis. Sending them a bunch of thanks and love.

Wassalammualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Langsa, 24th June 2024

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Abstract

Putri Fatrisya. 2024. Perspectives of English Students Alumni On
Career Opportunities

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This research aims to find out perspectives of English department students on career opportunities and the advantages of being an English alumni on career opportunities. The researcher used qualitative method as research design and descriptive research as kind of research. In collecting data in this research, the researcher used interview and questionnaires with alumni of English department students of Iain Langsa with a total of 60 participants to fill out the questionnaires and 8 participants for interview where the resource persons were several people who filled out the previous questionnaires. They were chosen to be participants because their status and the information provided were in accordance with the research problem. The researcher found that career opportunities for English graduates can be said to be quite good because they can open their own English courses with the skills they have and being an English alumni helps get a good TOEFL score, where the TOEFL score is one of the requirements for applying a job. Career opportunities for English education alumni do not only depend on be a teacher in public or private schools because there are so many job opportunities available. Alumni can try to open their own tutoring class, can be a translator or be an administrator staff. Job opportunities for alumni English department students are currently quite good.

Keywords: *alumni's perspectives, English foreign language students, career opportunities*

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Chapter I

Introduction

A. Background of Study

The importance of English proficiency in the era of globalization is seen in many institutions as the students want to pursue a degree and they want to find a job. Proficiency in English is much needed in today's world because it will be a passport of a student to be a graduate in order to earn decent employment.¹ When students have good proficiency in English, it can help them to get bachelor's degree immediately because one of the requirements for passing is to take an English-based test. If pupils receive a higher and genuine exam score, it benefits their language ability and potential career.² By having the abilities in English people can easily do all the test and get good result. Students who have a good score in the test, which is that means the students have a good proficiency in English and it can help them to live better and get a job easily. Improved English communication abilities can lead to greater social interactions as well as future work chances.³ English has become very important in this day, because now everyone can have an interaction with people from another countries and that way individuals can add friends and networks who can help them in looking for job,

¹ Caren Casama Orlanda-Ventayen, "Impact of English Language Courses and English Proficiency on Academic Performance of Junior Business Administrators," *Asian EFL Journal Research Articles*, vol. 24, 2019.

² Su Hie Ting et al., "Employers' Views on the Importance of English Proficiency and Communication Skill for Employability in Malaysia," *Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 7 (2017): 315–27, <https://doi.org/10.17509/ijal.v7i2.8132>.

³ Fatima Akther, "English for Personal and Career Development and Its Importance for Better Employment Opportunities," *Journal of Languages, Linguistics and Literary Studies (JLLLS)*, vol. 2, (Online, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.57040/jllls.v2i3.258>.

because their friends can provide information about job vacancies existing in their countries. All of the people know that English has become universal language which is used to interact with people who have different culture, religious, ethnic and other backgrounds.

In the current era of globalization the importance of English language skills is needed because English can provide big impact on people future career but many people still have less proficiency in English. The significance of English in this era cannot be ignored, English has an important role both in education and for future career. English students alumni must have high competence in their field study which is alumni must have extensive knowledge of their field and be skilled which can have a positive impact on alumni in employment opportunities.⁴ English graduates can use their time to work as English instructors temporarily while waiting for a permanent job.⁵ After finishing their education, many English graduates find themselves in a transitional phase, looking for stable employment. During this time, many graduated choose to use their linguistic skills by working as temporary English teachers. This not only keeps them engaged in their field, but also gives them valuable teaching experience. Temporary positions in language education allow graduates to polish their communication and pedagogical skills, furthering their professional development. English graduated worked for civil service for teachers. Moreover, majority were employed in the

⁴ Maidar Darwis, "Kompetensi Lulusan Fakultas Tarbiyah Dalam Menghadapi Pasar Global," *Jurnal Ilmiah Didaktika* 3, (2011): 24, <https://doi.org/10.22373/jid.v12i1.442>.

⁵ Luh Putu Artini, Ni Nyoman Padmadewi, and dan PK Nitiasih, "Penyiapan Alumni Jurusan Bahasa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Menjadi Wirausahawan Kursus," *INOTEKS: Jurnal Inovasi Ilmu Pengetahuan, Teknologi, Dan Seni* 20, (2016): 47–21.

local corporations as ESL tutors.⁶ English language and literature alumni have the opportunity to work in the banking sector.⁷ English graduates have flexible talents that go beyond teaching. The ability to communicate effectively, understand complex material, and write clearly qualifies them for a variety of job choices, including the banking industry. English graduates frequently succeed in areas such as content development, communication, and analysis, which need language precision and critical thinking.

Furthermore, English students alumni may have getting wider opportunities for their future careers and education.⁸ Alumni of English studies have a growing number of options for their future professions and education. English programs foster flexible abilities such as critical thinking, effective communication, and cultural understanding, preparing graduates for success in a variety of professional disciplines. The broad skill set obtained throughout English studies opens doors to a variety of employment opportunities, including writing, journalism, education, and even business. English alumni students may give an advantage in the workplace, remembering English as a business lingua franca.⁹ English has become the most widely used language in business. Its widespread use as a common language makes it easier for people from different

⁶ Ariel E. San Jose, "Finding the Linguist: An AB English Graduates Tracer Study," *International Journal of English Language Education* 2, (2014): 241, <https://doi.org/10.5296/ijele.v2i2.6295>.

⁷ A C Mamentu, "The Role Of English For Banking Subject In Language And English Literature Study Program Faculty Of Language And Arts," *Journal of Educational Method and Technology* 1, (2021): 25, <https://doi.org/10.36412/jemtec.v1i2.774>.

⁸ Assel Shmidt, "The Impact of English Medium Instruction on Language Proficiency and Employability: Perceptions of Nazarbayev University Alumni," *Nazarbayev University Graduate School of Education* (2018).

⁹ Franklin G. Talaue and Moo Kung Kim, "Investigating the Advantages of English Medium Instruction (EMI) in the Indonesian Workplace," *LEARN Journal: Language Education and Acquisition Research Network*, 13, (2020): 321–34.

cultures and countries to communicate and collaborate globally. This linguistic homogeneity facilitates worldwide economic transactions, negotiations, and collaborations. Companies on a worldwide scale frequently use English as their principal language for internal communications and paperwork. As an English graduate, alumni can get a great opportunity to be accepted by a company that makes English as the lingua franca of business. Learning the English language is a priceless ability that makes it easier to communicate with people from different linguistic origins. Even though learning English requires overcoming a number of obstacles, the advantages it provides are significant. A high level of English creates doors for efficient international communication that crosses borders and unites people from different cultures.

The communication skills perform an important key. The ability to communicate effectively is essential in many facets of both personal and professional life.¹⁰ Their importance goes far beyond merely conveying information; successful relationships, both at work and in interpersonal settings, are built on efficient communication. People may convey ideas, share viewpoints, and meaningfully collaborate with others when they can communicate effectively. By having good proficiency in English allow people to get the scholarship and to have brilliant career in the future.¹¹ English language proficiency is essential for obtaining scholarships and developing a successful job in the future. Many

¹⁰ Shamim Akhter et al., "Exploring the Significance of Speaking Skill for EFL Learners," *Palarch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology*, 17, (2020): 19–30.

¹¹ Ulin Ni'mah, "Case Study: The Role of Learning Strategies, Personality and Motivation in the Second Language Acquisition: Writing Proficiency of Samalian Students," *Journal of English for Academic and Specific Purposes (JEASP)* 3 (2020): 43–55, <https://doi.org/10.18860/jeasp.v3i1.9771>.

scholarships, especially those offered on an international level, frequently demand that applicants demonstrate a high level of English ability through written communication or standardized examinations. The ability to express ideas effectively and convincingly is enhanced by a solid command of the English language.

In the context of IAIN Langsa, some of the English alumni have already found work, such as teaching or starting an English language private course, while others choose to continue their studies. However, many other alumni have not yet to finding work and are unemployed. The lack of existing job opportunities is a factor that causes a lot of unemployment in Indonesia.¹² In Indonesia, the prevalent issue of unemployment is inextricably related to the scarcity of job opportunities. This difficulty is compounded by a number of variables, including rapid population increase, insufficient economic diversification, and skill gaps. The demand for jobs frequently exceeds the supply, creating a competitive market in which many skilled persons struggle to find work. Furthermore, the effects of global economic swings and technological improvements exacerbate the employment scarcity problem. The dynamic nature of the global economy, as well as rapid technical breakthroughs, have a substantial impact on Indonesia's unemployment difficulties.¹³ The country's sensitivity to global economic fluctuations exposes its workforce to uncertainty, harming industries that rely largely on international trade and investment. Economic downturns can diminish

¹² Ryan David Sinaulan, "Masalah Ketenagakerjaan Di Indonesia," *Ideas: Jurnal Pendidikan, Sosial Dan Budaya* 5, (2019): 55, <https://doi.org/10.32884/ideas.v5i1.173>.

¹³ Febyana Chitta Rifa Hanifa Mardhiyah, Sekar Nurul Fajriyah Aldriani and Muhamad Rizal Zulfikar, "Pentingnya Keterampilan Belajar Di Abad 21 Sebagai Tuntutan Dalam Pengembangan Sumber Daya Manusia," *Lectura: Jurnal Pendidikan* 12, (2021): 187–93.

demand for goods and services, prompting businesses to cut costs, downsize, or even shut down operations, resulting in widespread job losses. Overcoming poverty in Indonesia requires collaborative efforts from the government, corporate sector, and society. Steps that can be taken include enhancing skills through training, fostering entrepreneurship, encouraging investment to create jobs, and strengthening the school system to suit the needs of the job market. Based on the phenomena describe above, the researcher is interested in conducting a research to specifically focus on the English education department alumni perspectives towards career opportunities under the title **“Perspectives Of English Students Alumni On Career Opportunities”**.

B. Research Questions

Based on the above background the formulation of this research questions are as following:

1. What are perspectives of alumni on career opportunities as an English department student?
2. What are the advantages of being an English alumni on career opportunities?

C. Purpose of Study

Based on the research questions above, this study aimed:

1. To describe the perspectives on career opportunities as English student.
2. To find out the advantages as English alumni on career opportunities.

D. Significance of Study

The significances of this research are expect to provide some information about the English students' alumni perspectives on career opportunities. The significance of this research are as following :

Theoretically, this research can be used:

1. For students as reading materials either to enrich their know knowledge or improve their skills in English.
2. For the study program hopefully the finding result of this research can become information and source to improve the quality of English language education itself.

Practically, this research can benefit for:

1. For students, it is expect that the students would take the information from this research. Students will know how importance English in this era and can prepare themselves to compete in the world of work.
2. For other researcher, it is expect to be a reference for them in writing.

E. Scope of study

This research is focused on perspectives of english students alumni on career opportunities to find a job.

Chapter III

Research Method

A. Research Design

Research method is one of the activities used by researchers to obtain accurate information or data. The research design was qualitative study employing descriptive research. Qualitative research was research that intends to understand phenomena about what is experienced by research subjects (for example behavior, perceptions, etc.) hostically, and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language in a special natural context and by making use of it various natural methods.⁶⁴ Based on the explation above, qualitative research is generally use for examine phenomena using a holistic point of view and deep. Since the focus is to find out perspectives of English students alumni, a qualitative approach will allow for a comprehensive exploration of the topic within the specific context of the English students alumni. This case study design is useful because it gives a chance to analyze deep perspectives of graduates, allowing exhaustive information collecting and analysis.

Judith Wilde states that descriptive research is research that aims to explain current events rather than trying to determine differences between groups, or whether one educational method is more successful than another, this type of research collects information about the current status of events, and creates a

⁶⁴ Hengki Wijaya, "Analisis Data Kualitatif," *Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Jaffray* vol.3 (2020): 1–10, <https://doi.org/10.18592/alhadharah.v17i33.2374>.

report without doing any statistical analyses.⁶⁵ It means that descriptive research explains events experienced by alumni in the process of looking for a job. To be specific, the descriptive is used to identify perspectives of graduates when looking for a job. In qualitative research, the subject's perspectives is usually prioritized, so that the theoretical basis is used as a guide so that the research is appropriate to the phenomena in the field.

B. Research setting

This research aimed to find out alumni perspectives on career opportunities. The graduates to be researched were the English department students of Iain Langsa, which was conducted via WhatsApp teleconference. At the end of 2006, the President of the Republic of Indonesia issued regulation Number 106 of 2006, dated 28 December 2006 concerning the Establishment of the Zawiyah Cot Kala Langsa State Islamic Religious College (STAIN) which was signed by the President of the Republic of Indonesia Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. In 2006, 2 (two) new study programs were also added, namely English Language Education (PBI) and Mathematics Education (PMA), so that the Faculty of Tarbiyah has 4 (four) departments, namely Islamic Religious Education (PAI), Arabic Language Education (PBA), English Language Education (PBI) and Mathematics Education (PMA).

English Language Education Study Program has been established for 12 years. During that time. TBI Study Program continued to develop into a study

⁶⁵ Judith Wilde, "Definitions for the 'No Child Left Behind Act of 2001': Scientifically-Based Research," *National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition and Language Instruction NCELA*, 2004, 14.

program that was alert in responding to current developments. TBI study program positions itself as an institution that is ready to produce graduates who are competent in the fields of teaching, translation and language research. Therefore, the TBI study program provides a curriculum that is adapted to the 4.0 era and also a creative and innovative learning process. Although Islamic character is still forged in students who will become graduates and it generates graduates who are BRIGHT (Brilliant, Religious, Good attitude, High, and Talented).

This research was conducted from 25 to 30 March, to allow enough time for collecting data through an interviews and questionnaires. This timeline enables an in-depth investigation of the perspectives of alumni on career opportunities.

C. Research subject

Research subjects are data sources that can provide information related to research problems studied.⁶⁶ The exact question to be addressed determines the choice of research subject.⁶⁷ In conclusion, the researcher selects the subject of research based on the capacity of the individual to answer the questions that are needed in this research.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher decided to choose alumni of English department those who graduate from graduates in 2020 to 2023 and purposive sampling will be employed as the sampling method. Purposive

⁶⁶ Syifaul Adhimah, "Peran Orang Tua Dalam Menghilangkan Rasa Canggung Anak Usia Dini (Studi Kasus Di Desa Karangbong Rt. 06 Rw. 02 Gedangan-Sidoarjo)," *Jurnal Pendidikan Anak* vol.9 (2020): 57–62, <https://doi.org/10.21831/jpa.v9i1.31618>.

⁶⁷ Jack M. Feldman and John G. Lynch, "Self-Generated Validity and Other Effects of Measurement on Belief, Attitude, Intention, and Behavior," *Journal of Applied Psychology* vol.73 (1988): 421–35, <https://doi.org/10.1037/0021-9010.73.3.421>.

sampling involves defining characteristics for a specific study objective.⁶⁸ In this research, Participants were carefully selected from categorization. In this case the participants must have graduated from English department of Iain Langsa which the total of 60 participants to fill out the questionnaires and 8 participants for interview where the resource persons were several people who filled out the previous questionnaires. The reason for choosing them as research subjects is because they have characteristics that are relevant to the research questions and the subject's educational background can be an important factor in educational research or research that requires a certain level of understanding.

D. The procedure of Data Collection

In accordance with research conducted qualitative, data collection used qualitative methods and does not take the form of statistical data. According to Sugiono data collection consist of observation, interviews, questionnaires and documentation.⁶⁹ In this research the researcher collected data using interview and questionnaires techniques.

a. Questionnaires

A questionnaire is a document that includes questions and items to collect relevant information for analysis. Questionnaires are commonly used in surveys,

⁶⁸ Chittaranjan Andrade, "The Inconvenient Truth About Convenience and Purposive Samples," *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine* vol.43 (2021): 87, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0253717620977000>.

⁶⁹ Agung Rimba Kurniawan et al., "Problematika Guru Dalam Melaksanakan Program Literasi Di Kelas IV Sekolah Dasar," *Jurnal Pendidikan Dasar* vol.3 (2019): 31–37.

trials, and observational studies.⁷⁰ Researcher generated an opinion or conclusion based on the responses answer. Using a questionnaire or collection of questions is a common research methodology. The research questions are carefully designed to elicit responses relevant to the selected variables for analysis.

There are about three different types of questionnaire designing for a survey. They are applied according to the purpose of the survey. 1. Contingency questions/Cascade format 2. Matrix questions 3. Closed-ended questions.⁷¹

1. Contingency question

A question is only answered if the respondent provides a specific response to a preceding question. This helps prevent asking irrelevant inquiries to individuals.

2. Matrix question

Multiple questions have the same response categories. The questions are arranged in a matrix, with response categories on top and a series of questions along the side. This makes effective use of page space and responders' time.

3. Closed-ended question

Respondents' answers are confined to a predetermined set of options.

Most scales are closed-ended. Examples of closed-ended questions include:

⁷⁰ Bidhan Acharya, "Questionnaire Design," *Periodica Polytechnica Electrical Engineering* vol.33 (2010): 2, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2965735>.

⁷¹ S Roopa and MS Rani, "Questionnaire Designing for a Survey," *The Journal of Indian Orthodontic Society* vol.46 (2012): 273, <https://doi.org/10.5005/jp-journals-10021-1104>.

a. Yes/No questions—The respondent answers the questions with a ‘yes’ or a ‘no’.

Example: Have you ever visited a hospital?

b. Multiple choice—The respondent has several options from which to choose.

Example: How would you rate this food

(i) Excellent (ii) Good (iii) Fair (iv) Poor

c. Scaled questions—Responses are graded on a continuum (example: Rate the appearance of the product on a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being the most preferred appearance).

Examples of types of scales include the Likert scale and Semantic differential scale.

The researcher used closed-ended question aiming to explore different perspectives of respondent as well as provider. The questionnaire was designed to capture the perspective of alumni who had experienced in looking for job, and the advantages of English for alumni.

b. Interview

An interview is conducted to get information about the informant or about other people or organizations that he knows or is interested in. The objective may

be to get a life history, verify information from other sources, or protect the informant's personal data.⁷² Furthermore, interviewee may thus be an informant about the situation studied, as much as or more than being a part of it, and potentially have a higher status than the interviewer. It can be conclude that interview is the activity to get the information from another people about the situation studied. Holloway & Wheeler as cited by Imami Interview structures range from unstructured to structured. Qualitative research often involves unstructured or semi-structured interviews.⁷³

a. Structured interview

This style of interview results in less rich data. The timetable interview includes a number of predetermined questions. All participants were asked the identical questions in the same sequence.

b. Semi-Structured interview

Semi structured interview is an interview technique that uses an interview guide developed from the creation of themes and asks questions. Researchers can develop questions and decide for yourself which issues to raise. The interview guide has been adapted to the specific study topic. Researchers can save time in this process.

c. Unstructured interview

⁷² Jennifer Platt, *The History of the Interview, The SAGE Handbook of Interview Research: The Complexity of the Craft*, 2012, <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781452218403.n2>.

⁷³ Imami Nur Rachmawati, "Pengumpulan Data Dalam Penelitian Kualitatif: Wawancara," *Jurnal Keperawatan Indonesia* vol.11 (2007): 36, <https://doi.org/10.7454/jki.v11i1.184>.

The interview begins with common research-related questions. The interview frequently includes a keyword, agenda, or list of subjects to address. However, no questions were specified earlier. This form of interview is adaptable, and research may be conducted based on participants' interests and ideas. The interviewer freely asked questions in any sequence, based on their responses.

In this research, the interview techniques used by researcher was semi-structured interview which was conducted via WhatsApp teleconference . Semi-structured interview is interview techniques where researcher use guide and completely for data collection. The interview guide is used only an outline of the problem to be ask. With this technique the researcher can collect data by asking respondents to obtain basic or more in-depth data.

E. The procedure of Data Analysis

Data analysis is a research process that is carried out after all the data needed to solve the problem under study has been completely obtained.⁷⁴ Data analysis is the process of systematically searching and compiling data obtained from interviews, and questionnaire by organizing data into categories, describing it into units, synthesizing it, arranging it into patterns, choosing what is important and what will learn, and make conclusions so that they are easily understood by yourself and others.

⁷⁴ Muhson Ali, "Teknik Analisis Kualitatif," *Makalah Teknik Analisis II* vol.3 (2006): 1–7.

To analyse results of questionnaires, the researcher used the following procedures⁷⁵:

1. Collecting data

In collecting data, the researcher used questionnaire technique where alumni were used as respondents.

2. Classification and categorization of data

After the answer are obtained from the questionnaires, the researcher then classify the data according to the answers. For example, grouping alumni who have found work and those who have not, alumni who work in state schools and public school, and so on.

3. Conclusion

Make conclusions based on the final results obtained from the questionnaires.

Moreover, Miles and Huberman stated that activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and continue continuously until completion, so that the data is saturated.⁷⁶ In qualitative there are three way to analysis data, namely data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusions:

1. Data reduction

⁷⁵ Nurhidayah Nurhidayah and Indayani B, "Analisis Kualitatif Hubungan Budaya Kerja Organisasi Dengan Opini Audit," *Owner (Riset Dan Jurnal Akuntansi)* vol.4 (2020): 510, <https://doi.org/10.33395/owner.v4i2.303>.

⁷⁶ Ivanovich Agusta, "Teknik Pengumpulan Dan Analisis Data Kualitatif," *Jurnal Studi Komunikasi Dan Media* vol.2 (1998): 10.

Data reduction is simplifying, abstracting, and transforming coarse data from field notes. This procedure occurs continually during the investigation. Data reduction is the process of analyzing and organizing data so that the final conclusion can be drawn.

2. Data display

Data display is an activity in which a collection of information is organized, allowing for the potential of making conclusions and taking action. Data presentation can be in the form of matrices, graphs, networks, and charts as well as narrative text. Organize material in a clear and easy-to-access style to improve comprehension and accuracy of findings.

3. Drawing conclusion

After all the steps have been carried out, the final step is to draw conclusions based on the results that have been obtained.

Chapter IV

Result and Discussion

In this section, the researcher shared the data which was collected through questionnaires and interview with all respondents conducted over seven day. To collected the data, the researcher used WhatsApp teleconference since the respondents live different cities making face to face interview impractical. Through the data collecting process with 8 interview participants and 60 questionnaire participants, the researcher will present the outcomes of the research:

A. Research Finding

1. Perspectives is a way of looking at and behaving towards a problem or event. After research was carried out using interview and questionnaire techniques, data was obtained which showed that job opportunities for current English language graduates are quite good if they are accompanied by good English language skills as well, because with the skills they have they will not only depend on being teachers at school but they can register for courses or create their own English tutoring class and also they can work for a company. The statement above is strengthened by the data from interview with participants S.A *“After graduating from bachelor's degree S.A has the ability to teach, good English language skills, S.A will find it very easy to get a job, because currently there are many English language courses open and to be part of them. We will take a test and you have good*

teaching and English skills, then the job will be very easy to get and the chances of being accepted are great.” Participant D added “the opportunities for English graduates are a little difficult if we don't have adequate skill, but if we are English graduates and have qualified skills then it will be very easy for us to get a job.” Added by S “there are many job opportunities for English graduates, but it also depends on the abilities they have. If they have good English language skills, there will be many tutoring/foundations that will accept them as teaching staff.” Which was confirmed by the results of the questionnaire where 52 people out of 60 participants chose that ability or skills had an important role in getting a job. S.A also added that being an English graduate contributes greatly to getting a job, because in this modern era English is a necessity. In prestigious schools such as bilingual schools, good English skills are required to be accepted into the school. that way, many parents will look for English teachers for their children, which will open up great opportunities for English graduates. I have got this job opportunity. Currently I have my own English course and I manage the place myself. Participa S.Y also added “Job opportunities for English language graduates to work freelance really depend on whether or not their abilities are suitable for being employed, job opportunities abroad such as in Dubai to work in companies also have many opportunities if we really master English skills well and able to communicate well. Wherever we want to work, a test will be carried out first. Being an English graduate

makes me have good English skills which helps me to be accepted in a company. I am currently working in a private company in Dubai.

Participant N *“There are many job opportunities for English language education graduates, the first is that they definitely become educators, apart from that, now many companies are opening job vacancies with the requirement of being able to speak English verbally and in writing.”*

Which was confirmed by the results of the questionnaire where 59 people out of 60 participants chose that being an English graduate made it easier for them to get a job and also 59 English alumni after graduating had or were already working and 58 people answered that they currently had a job and only 2 people still had not gotten or found the job they wanted.

However, according to alumni, job opportunities in schools are quite difficult because every school definitely has permanent teachers in every subject. According to R *“job opportunities for English language graduates are a little narrow if we talk in the school/institution context because schools rarely lack English language teaching staff themselves, but if we talk in the scope of tutoring/private tutoring, job opportunities for graduates English is quite large because many parents want their children to be able to speak English.”* Also added by E *“there are quite few opportunities because in schools each subject already has its own teaching teacher and new schools will look for new teaching staff if the teacher has quit/retired. But if we are looking for work in an English course, there might be a big opportunity because there are lots of tutoring*

courses open in Langsa.” However, now that English subjects have been added to elementary schools, job opportunities are becoming wider. strengthened by words participan I “the opportunities for English language education alumni are quite good with the addition of a new subject in elementary school, English subject. So alumni who have just graduated have the opportunity/opportunities at elementary school level.”

Besides all of that, alumni also face challenges in finding work. The small salary offer is far below expectations and the “selling price” should be based on the skills they have, how they are able to show the abilities and how to continue upgrade skill themselves, serving as an honorary teacher does not guarantee that you will become a permanent teacher, how to make people believe in their abilities because there is so much competition in the world of work, how do show the skills they have well and make the other interested in their abilities because there are so many competitors who have more capabilities than they have, the lack of job information because nowadays many jobs are not accessible to public.

2. The advantage of being an English graduate in job opportunities is that they can try for freelance work on the internet because one of the requirements is being able to speak English, making it easier to get a good TOEFL score and also being able to answer interview questions using English. The statement above is strengthened by data from interview with participants R *“The advantages is that we can apply for freelance work such as on sites on the internet, where one of the requirements to be*

accepted is being able to speak English. So, the privilege is that, because we are English alumni, we definitely have good English skills too. And then if we want to register for CPNS, a TOEFL score is required as a condition for acceptance and that will be beneficial for English language graduates.” Which was confirmed by the results of questionnaire data where 59 people out of 60 participants answered that being a language graduate and being an English graduate had a positive impact on their work. Participant N “*The advantages are that now that I am an educator, I can use English verbally and in writing in job interviews.*” Which was confirmed by the results of questionnaire data where 57 people out of 60 participants answered that their current job was related to the field of science that they were studying and also 56 people answered that the education they received during college was relevant to their current job and had a very positive impact. Becoming an English graduate also helps make it easier to communicate using English, knowing reading intonation and good pronunciation. which is corroborated by participants’ statements S.A shared, “*The main advantages I get are that I have the ability to communicate using good English and then I have the ability to teach, especially teaching English.*” Participant D shared, “*The advantages I feel are that I can speak English, can know good reading intonation, can master good English pronunciation. And also if we can show the creativity that exists within us, we can open up our own job opportunities such as opening an English tutoring.*” Participant S shared, “*The advantages I feel*

are that I can communicate in English well, which means I can easily interact with people from abroad and increase the number of friends I have, I can watch films without using subtitles.” Another advantage they get is that they do not have to wait long to get work. which was confirmed based on the results of the questionnaire 59 people agreed that they only need to wait less than 3-6 months to get a job and only 1 of them waited around 7 months -1 year to get a job. 43 people answered that they got job information from family/friends of alumni and 17 other people answered that they got job information from the internet. Another respondent added that being an English graduate makes it easier to adapt to technological advances. Participan I shared “*The advantages are that we can face technological advances because almost all technology is in English. Then English has become an international language which is definitely needed in companies or agencies and we as alumni have the privilege of being able to master it.*” Participan S.Y shared “*I can apply English to build international connections. And you can also become an exciting and innovative English teacher with varied learning methods such as those taught in lectures.*” Participan E shared “*I can filter information written in English and also I can read English texts correctly, can understand English language films and I can communicate with the people I want without being hampered by English.*”.

Interview participant	Occupations
1. SA	Have her own english course and manage it
2. D	English teacher
3. R	English teacher
4. SY	Employees in dubai company
5. E	English teacher
6. S	English teacher
7. N	English teacher
8. I	Employees at the village ministry

B. Discussion

1. Perspectives of english department students alumni on career opportunities

English department students have showed their persprectives on career opportunities. One of the perspective is opportunities for english language education alumni are currently quite good since english as an obligation subject at elementary schools. So alumni who have just graduated have the opportunities at elementary school level. Regardless of it, previously English subjects in elementary schools were abolished by the government because it is feared that it will reduce national language skills. Elimination of English subjects because it

was feared that it would reduce Indonesian language skills.⁷⁷ Elimination of English language lessons at primary education level becomes less precise because in this increasingly globalized world, control English is very important to be able to compete with society world.⁷⁸ Therefore, learning English as early as possible is important to equip elementary level students to have a basic English language for learning at a higher level of education. However, English subjects in elementary schools again which makes job opportunities for English language graduates even greater, because they will not just depend on middle and high school. To get all of this you need good skills in English because ability is an important factor in getting a job, but other studies say that grades are an important factor in getting a job.

Career opportunities for English education alumni do not only depend on be a teachers in public or private schools because currently there are so many job opportunities available. If only focus on becoming a teacher at school, the chances will be few because there are already permanent teachers for each subject at school. As alumni of English department student, they can create their own job opportunities by opening English language learning courses, which is currently the case for parents who want their children to be able to master English and using the abilities that alumni had during their studies, alumni can try to open their own tutoring class. Specifically, prospective workers who have the ability in English

⁷⁷ Indah Arvianti and Ana Wahyuni, "Penerapan Model Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris Berbasis Kearifan Lokal Sebagai Upaya Konstruktivisme Karakter Anak Bangsa," *Proceeding of The URECOL*, 2020, 91, <http://repository.urecol.org/index.php/proceeding/article/view/1110>.

⁷⁸ Ichda Faridatuunnisa, "Kebijakan Dan Pelaksanaan Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris Untuk SD Di Indonesia," *Prosiding Seminar Nasional*, 2020, 198.

have greater opportunities than others who cannot speak English.⁷⁹ In this research, English alumni have great opportunities in the field of entrepreneurship by opening or managing English language courses. Graduates majoring in English are said to have sufficient readiness to hold courses because they have been equipped with knowledge during lectures. Many parents want their children to be bilingual. Furthermore, English language proficiency is identical with the international setting, like open international access in terms of school development, job, and social and professional connections. To gain access, researchers, managers, and administrators must use English to search for the information, get to it, and even use it initially.⁸⁰ English is clearly the dominant language of science and technology around the world, and much of the necessary information in publication form and computer access systems is written in English. English is an official language in multilingual nations, allowing non-native speakers to interact and participate in educational and political institutions.⁸¹

Becoming an English graduate has many job opportunities in various fields. Alumni can become tour guides, translators, writers and can also become staff in domestic and foreign companies. In another research, the field of work that quite a lot of alumni are involved in is being a translator and administrator

⁷⁹ dan P.K. Nitiasih Luh Putu Artini, Ni Nyoman Padmadewi, "Penyiapan Alumni Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Menjadi Wirausahawan Kursus," *INOTEKS: Jurnal Inovasi Ilmu Pengetahuan, Teknologi, Dan Seni* vol.20 (2016): 49–50.

⁸⁰ William Grabe, "English, Information Access, and Technology Transfer: A Rationale for English as an International Language," *World Englishes* vol.7 (1988): 65–67, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-971X.1988.tb00215.x>.

⁸¹ Clifford Hill and Kate Parry, *From Testing to Assessment: English as an International Language*, Routledge, vol. vol.11, 2018, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-420070-8.00002-7>.

staff.⁸² To become a translator, you are required to have good speaking, listening and reading skills, because these abilities are the basis for this job. Current technological advances make it very easy to hone these abilities. Accessing the Internet will encourage readers to learn. Combining visuals, videos, and music with instruction helps enhance person's intellectual awareness and cognitive skills.⁸³ All you need to do is have a great desire to always upgrade yourself that every individual must have. All of this will be easy to obtain, have good and proficient English language skills then there are lots of job opportunities.

Despite all that, job opportunities for English language graduates are not always good. For those who have poor English skills, it will be difficult for them to get a job because currently one of the requirements for someone to be accepted into a job is to have good English skills or proficiency. People who have poor English skills are associated with a lower probability or possibility of working in the future.⁸⁴ English proficiency is crucial for success in job competitiveness and professional advancement.⁸⁵ Especially for those who are English alumni, they are required to have good English language skills, the ability to speaking, reading, listening and writing. Have significant ability mastering English may enhance competitiveness and lead to career chances, scholarships, and other benefits in

⁸² Unit Bimbingan Konseling dan Karir (UBKK), "Laporan Tracer Study Tahun 2020 (Alumni Tahun 2018)," 2020.

⁸³ Van Lam Kieu et al., "The Effectiveness of Using Technology in Learning English," *AsiaCALL Online Journal* vol.12 (2021): 24, <https://asiacall.info/acoj>.

⁸⁴ Tariq H. Haque and M. Ohidul Haque, "Double Disadvantage? The Slow Progress of Non-English-Speaking Migrant Women in Accessing Good Jobs in Australia," *Labour & Industry* vol.30 (2020): 273, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10301763.2020.1824437>.

⁸⁵ Arin Arianti, "Analisis Kebutuhan Bahasa Inggris Pada Mahasiswa Non Bahasa Inggris," *Prosiding Seminar Nasional Publikasi Hasil-Hasil Penelitian Dan Pengabdian Masyarakat*, 2017, 50.

international interactions.⁸⁶ Eventhough, Some argue that English is unimportant in employment due to the diversity of job kinds that may not require it, and communication in English is only used to serve consumers from abroad who in Indonesia itself use Indonesian when communicating.⁸⁷

2. The advantages of being english department alumni on career opportunities

English language education alumni feel the advantages of being alumni. one of the things they feel is that they can master speaking skills. There are lots of job opportunities offered on the internet where you can work from home, one of which is being an English tutor or content creator. One of the requirements to be able to get this job is to be able to master speaking skills. So, alumni who are proficient in speaking skills can try their luck on this opportunity. For alumni who want to register to take part in CPNS, one of the requirements is to have a good TOEFL score. TOEFL is a test English language skills are needed not only for educational purposes at home or abroad, as well as being a requirement for internal registration CPNS acceptance⁸⁸. For English language alumni who are already familiar with TOEFL, this requirement is not too difficult because during college they have been trained to take such test.

⁸⁶ Phoenna Ath Thariq et al., “Sosialisasi Pentingnya Menguasai Bahasa Inggris Bagi Mahasiswa,” *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat: Darma Bakti Teuku Umar* vol.2 (2021): 317, <https://doi.org/10.35308/baktiku.v2i2.2835>.

⁸⁷ Ristia Wakyuningsih, Hanifah Aulia Kusuma, and Heni Listyanti, “Analisis Persepsi Mahasiswa Non Bahasa Inggris Terhadap Kebutuhan Bahasa Inggris Di Dunia Kerja,” *LITERASI-Jurnal Keislaman Multi-Perspektif* vol.1 (2021): 333.

⁸⁸ Kurnia Saputri, Masagus Sulaiman, and Sri Yuliani, “Pelatihan Toefl Bagi Mahasiswa Semester VII Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris UM Palembang,” *ABDINE: Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat* vol.1, no. 2 (2021): 191, <https://doi.org/10.52072/abdine.v1i2.249>.

Another advantage felt by alumni is being able to build international relationships. which relationship can help us make new friends. That way it can help to hone our English language skills and can also help to get information about jobs that are currently available in that country. Apart from making friends, you also get a job. and to get a job you usually need to do an interview. Having the ability to speak and write is a plus point that alumni have which can help them in getting a job. The importance of the ability to communicate in English fluently, accurately, and creatively in various settings and the ability to produce well-written texts for various academic and professional purposes because in work, one must be skilled, especially in one's specialty. Industrial development in other Asian countries such as India and China are wide open opportunities for those with good English communication skills.⁸⁹ If the interview is conducted in English, it will be easy for alumni to answer the questions asked and because during study they have learned about grammar, perhaps they will easily answer with correct grammar. English alumni have a greater awareness of language as a system, including grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, which can translate to improved literacy skills in both languages.⁹⁰ While being an alumnus may not inherently confer cognitive advantages, the pursuit of higher education and ongoing engagement with intellectual pursuits can certainly help to improve cognitive functioning and lead to a more fulfilling life. People who speak more

⁸⁹ Jocelyn L Gagalang, "EMPLOYERS ' PERSPECTIVES ON ENGLISH-MAJOR GRADUATES ' ATTRIBUTES , SKILLS , AND PERSONAL QUALITIES," *Palarch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt / Egyptology*, vol.17 (2020): 465.

⁹⁰ Bnar Abdulmajeed Ghafour and Dashne Azad Sedeeq, "The Prospective Role of Communicative Language on the Alumni Competitive Advantage," *Journal of Namibian Studies* vol.2 (2023): 6033–34, <https://doi.org/10.23918/vesal2023v12>.

than one language have a better understanding of different cultures and are better able to deal with cultural differences. This can help them communicate with others and solve problems better. Effective communication skills are vital for professional development, the capacity to convey fluently in both written and spoken forms of language is highly important for the professional progress.⁹¹

⁹¹ Dr. Prabhat Pandey Dr. Meenu Pandey, "Better English for Better Employment Opportunities," *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Approach and Studies* vol.1 (2014): 95.

Chapter V

Conclusion and Suggestion

A. Conclusion

In this section, the researcher presents conclusions from what has been obtained during research regarding the perspectives of English department student alumni on career opportunities.

1. Depends to the finding in this research, english department students alumni giving their perspective that job opportunities for English language graduates are currently quite good. where they not only depend on being honorary at school but they can also open their own English tutoring class, which nowadays many parents and children really want to be able to speak English well because of the demands of current technological advances which makes them even more enthusiastic about able to speak English. In this way, the greater the opportunity that alumni have to get a job. Besides all that, being an English graduate will not always only be an educator, they also have the opportunity to work in the education sector, such as being a translator, tour guide and even staff in a company.
2. Becoming an English graduate not only do you gain knowledge during college but also provides many benefits, such as alumni being able to easily communicate with people from other countries because English is a lingua franca, which means a connecting language or a language used internationally for people who have a foreign background. different. In this way, it can make it easier for alumni to build international relations.

B. Suggestion

1. Suggestion for students, especially English language education students, to further hone/improve their English language skills because it is possible that in the future there will be more and more alumni from English language education and this will make competition in getting jobs even more difficult. So it is hoped that students can prepare themselves as best as possible.

2. Suggestion for the department program to further improve the quality of English language students so that they are able to compete in the world of work and because their goal after graduating is to work, it is hoped that educational seminars, job training seminars and others will be held more frequently.