

**THESIS**

**THE ENGLISH STUDENTS' PERCEPTION USING GRAMMARLY  
AS THE ACADEMIC WRITING TOOL TO ENHANCE THE  
QUALITY OF THEIR WRITING**

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**Agustina Melinia Putri. 2024., THE ENGLISH STUDENTS' PERCEPTION USING GRAMMARLY AS THE ACADEMIC WRITING TOOL TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THEIR WRITING.** Thesis. Mataram: Muhammadiyah University of Mataram.

First Consultant : Asbah, S.Pd.,M.Hum

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### **ABSTRAK**

*Perkembangan teknologi kini memudahkan penulis untuk meningkatkan kualitas tulisan mereka dengan menggunakan aplikasi Grammarly. Grammarly adalah alat pemeriksa tata bahasa dan ejaan yang menawarkan pemeriksaan tata bahasa, deteksi ejaan, dan deteksi plagiarisme, serta dapat diakses secara online melalui gadget, PC, atau laptop. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana penggunaan Grammarly dapat meningkatkan keterampilan menulis bahasa Inggris mahasiswa. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kuantitatif dan mengumpulkan data melalui survei dengan pertanyaan tertutup. Populasi dalam penelitian ini adalah 40 dari 113 mahasiswa jurusan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Muhammadiyah Mataram. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penggunaan Grammarly dapat meningkatkan akurasi tulisan mereka. Aplikasi ini membantu mereka dengan mudah menemukan kesalahan dan kekeliruan dalam tulisan mereka serta meningkatkan motivasi mereka untuk menulis. Oleh karena itu, penggunaan aplikasi Grammarly dapat sangat bermanfaat bagi mahasiswa sebagai alat bantu menulis.*

**Kata kunci: Teknologi, Persepsi Mahasiswa, Alat Grammarly.**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The development of technology, writers now can easily enhance the writing quality using the Grammarly app. Grammarly app is a grammar and spelling checker tool that offers grammar, spell detector, and plagiarism detector, that can be accessed online through gadgets, PC's or laptops. The purpose of the study is to find out the use of Grammarly to enhance students writing skill in English writing. This study used quantitative methods and collected the data using a survey with close-ended questions. The populations of this study were 40 out of 113 English department students of Muhammadiyah University of Mataram. The finding showed that the use of Grammarly can enhance the accuracy of their writing. It helps them easily to find out their writing mistakes, errors, make them more motivated to write. Therefore, the use of the Grammarly app can be so helpful for students as their writing assistant app.*

**Keywords : Technology, Students' Perception, Grammarly Tool.**

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Research

One of the most crucial writing genres to master is academic writing, as it is regarded as an essential component in studying English and is applicable across all disciplines, given English's status as a universal language (Kurniati & Fithriani, 2022). Academic writing serves as a pivotal stage in the research process, enabling scholars to articulate thoughts, experiences, observations, applications, and test findings (Akkaya & Aydin, 2018). Oshima and Hogue (2007) emphasized the necessity of properly preserving ideas in academic writing, highlighting the requirement for comprehensive information. The demand for papers and articles to be written in English for international journals underscores the importance of students focusing on mastering English, particularly in their writing skills (Nova, 2018).

Moreover, students often face cognitive, graphomotor, and basic writing skill impairments, contributing to negative perceptions, anxiety, and aversion towards writing, which hinder their ability to produce English texts effectively (Toba et al., 2019). Difficulties in grammar and vocabulary further compound these challenges (Vivi et al., 2023). Expressing ideas coherently through writing remains a challenge for many students (Reynova et al., 2023), exacerbated by obstacles in accessing sufficient and relevant sources of information and grappling with grammatical and spelling intricacies, both critical elements in the writing process (Cauring et al., 2023).

Technology has profoundly impacted human life worldwide, particularly in education where advancements have revolutionized the teaching and learning processes (Raskova, 2023). With the evolution of technology, the internet has significantly facilitated writing instruction, exemplified by the emergence of online grammar checker programs. One prominent tool is Grammarly Software (Aidil, 2019), an online proofreading tool designed to scan documents and minimize errors related to vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics. Grammarly automatically detects a range of writing issues, including grammar, word choice, spelling, and punctuation mistakes (Ghufron & Rosyida, 2018).

Grammarly meticulously checks written work for spelling, grammar, and punctuation issues, thereby enhancing clarity and readability (Wahyu & Zur, 2024; Lailika, 2019). Moreover, Grammarly aids students in refining sentence structures, correcting spelling errors, and improving overall writing proficiency (Nova, 2018). The software offers valuable recommendations for enhancing vocabulary usage, sentence structure, and rephrasing, making it an indispensable tool for university students seeking to identify and rectify grammatical mistakes in their academic writing (Aghisna Daroina et al., 2022).

A university in Australia has adopted Grammarly as a tool to provide grammatical feedback. Additionally, undergraduate students in Indonesia use Grammarly to ensure grammatical accuracy in their papers, theses, and assignments (O'Neill & Russell, 2019). Many students at colleges and universities find Grammarly incredibly helpful, especially when writing essays or conducting

research. Grammarly has been shown to boost students' motivation, self-worth, and confidence, allowing them to feel more assured in their writing abilities despite potential errors, which is highly beneficial (Cauring et al., 2023). Grammarly offers recommendations for improving vocabulary, sentence structure, and rephrasing, making it a valuable tool for university students to detect and correct grammatical mistakes (Aghisna Daroina et al., 2022). Furthermore, Grammarly provides specific feedback for almost all highlighted instances, significantly enhancing response accuracy compared to general feedback (Ranalli, 2018; Suzuki et al., 2019). As a result, Grammarly serves as a critical resource for identifying and rectifying writing errors. This proves particularly advantageous for university students majoring in English who frequently encounter multiple English writing assignments, as tools like Grammarly aid in detecting grammatical errors in their written tasks (Azer, 2017).

There are several studies related to this topic. First study by Aidil's (2019) focuses on exploring students' perceptions of the Grammarly software and various aspects of academic writing. Employing interviews and descriptive analysis, the study reveals that participants find Grammarly helpful in correcting their academic writing, albeit with drawbacks such as misleading feedback and overcorrection. Second, The study by Fahmi & Cahyono (2021) explored how students perceive Grammarly and teacher feedback in their writing. The study, which took the form of a survey, examined students' questionnaire answers in addition to their TOEFL result, the Findings revealed that students had a positive perception of both Grammarly and teacher feedback. Third The study by Perdana

et al. (2021) Focus to evaluate Grammarly's effectiveness in improving academic writing based on expert experiences gathered from published literature. The research utilized descriptive qualitative content analysis with an exploratory phenomenological approach to delve into each expert's experiences. Literature sources included Google Docs, Eric Publications, Google Scholar, and other online platforms. The study found that Grammarly is highly favored by academics for its ability to identify writing errors effectively.

Previous studies conducted by Aidil (2019), Fahmi & Cahyono (2021), and Perdana et al. (2021) have extensively explored various dimensions of Grammarly's application in academic writing contexts using methodologies such as interviews, surveys, and qualitative content analysis. Aidil's research focused on investigating student perceptions of Grammarly, highlighting challenges such as ambiguous feedback. Conversely, Fahmi & Cahyono's study revealed positive student perceptions and constructive teacher feedback regarding Grammarly. Perdana et al. assessed Grammarly's efficacy through expert experiences in identifying writing errors. Building upon these foundational studies, this research adopts a quantitative approach employing surveys with closed-ended questions to further examine students' perceptions of Grammarly and its potential impact on enhancing academic writing quality. By focusing on student perspectives, in this study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of Grammarly's role in higher education and provide practical insights for effectively utilizing it to improve academic writing skills. This research endeavors to expand the existing literature

on educational technology tools and their implications for writing instruction in academic settings.

Based on the comprehensive background presented, it is evident that mastering academic writing in English plays a crucial role in global higher education. While technologies like Grammarly have significantly contributed to facilitating the teaching-learning process, there remains a gap in students' understanding regarding the use of Grammarly to enhance the quality of their writing. Therefore, the findings of this research are expected to provide a deeper understanding of the extent to which Grammarly can be leveraged to improve students' academic writing quality. This study seeks to contribute to the existing literature by shedding light on how Grammarly influences students' writing practices and perceptions. By examining these perspectives, educators and researchers can better support students in improving their academic writing skills using technological tools like Grammarly effectively.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Considering those problem, the research questions is “What are the perceptions of English department students regarding the use of Grammarly as an academic writing tool to enhance the quality of their writing?”

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The purpose of this study is, to find out the students perceptions of English department use Grammarly to enhance the quality of the writing.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

This study offers some specific details about how students perceive using the Grammarly tool to improve the caliber of their writing. It is anticipated that there



will be more information to help the educational field investigate effective ways to support students' writing abilities. It is anticipated that the outcome will provide readers with helpful information and serve as an extra source of reference for other academics working on related projects. There are several significant for theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretical

This study expected is as it has the potential to contribute fresh insights and provide a novel resource regarding students' perceptions of using Grammarly to enhance the quality of their writing.

2. Practical

- a) Lecture

This study expected to provide educators with insights into the advantages of Grammarly as a tool to ensure that written content not only maintains correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar but also remains clear, compelling, and easy to comprehend.

- b) Students

This study expected to provide students with the understanding that Grammarly assists in identifying and rectifying minor errors in their written assignments, thus aiding in the prevention of unintentional plagiarism. Encouraging students to utilize Grammarly before submitting their work enables instructors to concentrate on more advanced aspects such as critical analysis, originality, and showcasing comprehension.

- c) The Other Researcher

This study expected to generate interest among fellow researchers in exploring students' attitudes towards Grammarly, as well as its grammar checking in writing to enhance the quality of their writing.

## **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

### **1.5.1 Academic Writing**

Academic writing is One of the stages in the academic research process that scientists use to report on scenarios including thought, experience, observation, application, testing.

### **1.5.2 Grammarly**

Grammarly is an online proofreading tool designed for scanning documents to minimize writing errors related to vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics. The software automatically detects various writing errors, including grammar, word choice, spelling, and punctuation mistakes.

### **1.5.3 Perception**

Perception is the mental process involving the organization, interpretation, and understanding of information received through the senses. In psychology, perception encompasses how individuals see, hear, feel, smell, and taste the world around them. It is a crucial process as it forms the basis for an individual's understanding of the environment and interaction with others.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **CONCLUSION & SUGGESION**

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

Grammarly as a tool for academic writing enhancement. Across various metrics including ease of use, effectiveness in identifying errors, learning improvement, feedback relevance, and integration with writing platforms, respondents consistently express favorable opinions. The majority acknowledge Grammarly's role in improving their understanding of English grammar, enhancing efficiency in editing, and ultimately contributing to higher satisfaction levels with their written work. Furthermore, the data indicates that Grammarly's personalized feedback and suggestions align well with users' academic writing needs, leading to increased productivity and reliability. Overall, these findings affirm Grammarly's value as a comprehensive writing assistance tool, with the potential to significantly impact users' writing proficiency and academic performance positively.

Grammarly is widely perceived as highly useful and effective by the majority of users in enhancing the quality of their academic writing. Most users find Grammarly easy to use, efficient in detecting grammar errors, and helpful in improving their understanding of grammar. They are also satisfied with Grammarly's feedback and corrections, considering it consistent and comprehensive in supporting their writing. Additionally, Grammarly is seen to enhance productivity and efficiency in completing academic tasks. This conclusion underscores Grammarly's value and recommendation as a valuable tool for improving academic writing skills.

## 5.2 Suggestion

Based on the conclusion drawn from the data analysis, it is evident that Grammarly serves as a potent tool for enhancing academic writing across multiple dimensions. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from respondents underscores Grammarly's efficacy in various facets, including ease of use, error identification, learning enhancement, feedback relevance, and seamless integration with writing platforms. The consistent acknowledgment of Grammarly's role in augmenting users' comprehension of English grammar and streamlining the editing process speaks volumes about its utility in facilitating higher levels of writing proficiency. Moreover, the personalized nature of Grammarly's feedback and suggestions aligns seamlessly with users' academic writing needs, fostering increased productivity and reliability in their writing endeavors. These findings collectively affirm Grammarly's status as a comprehensive writing assistance tool, with the potential to significantly elevate users' writing skills and academic performance.

In light of these compelling findings, it is recommended that institutions and individuals alike embrace Grammarly as an indispensable resource for honing academic writing skills. The widespread perception of Grammarly as highly useful and effective underscores its value in the educational landscape. Institutions can consider integrating Grammarly into their writing support services, thereby empowering students with a powerful tool to enhance their writing proficiency. Likewise, individuals can leverage Grammarly to streamline their writing processes, improve their understanding of grammar, and ultimately produce higher-quality written work. By harnessing the capabilities of Grammarly, students

and educators alike can embark on a journey towards achieving greater excellence in academic writing.

