

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher presented background of study, problem of study, research objective, the significance of study, scope and limitation, the assumption of study, hypothesis of study, definition of keyterms, and previous study.

#### A. Background of Study

Writing is often considered difficult for some students who are learning a language, especially if the language is a foreign language, of course, because the writing structure is different from their mother tongue. Good writing usually used good grammar or writing structure, so someone who writes needs to learn the grammar of that language. According to Mirza Ananda et al, writers must think about writing carefully, because other people will be unable to understand what you write if the sentences are produced with incorrect grammar.<sup>1</sup> Writing skills are necessary for learning a foreign language, not only in Speaking, Listening, and Reading but also very influential on students thinking and writing styles. Students think that differences in grammatical structures are an obstacle for them to write good essays or English texts, especially in foreign languages. A lack of vocabulary can also make them less confident in writing. Beginners may have to pay attention to several things before starting to write apart from grammatical elements. According to Meyers in the Social Science and

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<sup>1</sup> Mirza Ananda, Rahmatun Nisa, and Siti Safura, "Students' Perceptions Toward the Use of Grammarly in Checking Grammar in Assignments," *ACCENTIA: Journal of English Language and Education* 1, no. 2 (December 30, 2021): 72–77, <https://doi.org/10.37598/accentia.v1i2.1144>.

Humanities journal written by Karyuatry., et al, writing is an action. There are several steps in the writing process, including finding and organizing ideas, writing or putting them on paper, and composing and revising writing.<sup>2</sup> Writing is not just stringing words together, but an idea must be thought of before starting to write. When you have found an idea, then the idea is developed into interesting and meaningful writing. In learning languages, writing is very helpful for us to understand the correct grammatical structure in the language we are learning; by writing, we can train our memory of the vocabulary, and practice how to read and speak in that foreign language. In a language class, especially English class, students need to practice their writing skills. They need to try to write since middle school. Getting used to writing makes it easier for them to understand other skills in learning a language, such as; Speaking, Reading, and Listening. Because English is an international language that we must learn to keep up with developments, we need to learn various skills in learning languages.

Today's teaching and learning process cannot be separated from technology, with the development of this technology makes teaching and learning activities easier to do. The rapidly developing technology has a significant impact on everyone, especially students.<sup>3</sup> Evidenced by the existence of the covid-19 pandemic which forced them to study at home using technology. Teachers can still deliver the teaching material, and students can still receive the lesson

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<sup>2</sup> Laksnorina Karyuatry, "Grammarly as a Tool to Improve Students' Writing Quality: Free Online-Proofreader across the Boundaries," *JSSH (Jurnal Sains Sosial Dan Humaniora)* 2, no. 1 (May 1, 2018): 83, <https://doi.org/10.30595/jssh.v2i1.2297>.

<sup>3</sup> Muhammad Ali Ghufron and Fathia Rosyida, "The Role of Grammarly in Assessing English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Writing," *Lingua Cultura* 12, no. 4 (December 11, 2018): 395, <https://doi.org/10.21512/lc.v12i4.4582>.

without leaving their homes.<sup>4</sup> Before the pandemic, students could communicate or ask questions directly to teachers, and could even discuss directly with their friends. But with the pandemic, students must study independently at home, they must be able to use technology. By studying online, they cannot easily discuss with friends and even ask their teachers. Most of the learning media that have been used by teachers such as books, pictures, or others are less attractive to students, both children and adults, in the learning process because their forms and models are still old-fashioned. Learning media using books is sometimes still difficult for some students to understand. In this sophisticated era, students need unique and interesting learning media to help them understand the material or help improve their abilities. They chose to use methods that are considered easier way and more practical, such as using videos or applications that help them to learn. They usually used interesting learning applications or media such as YouTube, TikTok, etc., to study at home besides books. Because they tend to be lazy to read books at home, especially without any explanation from the teacher. Learning a language is not as difficult as it used to be, because now many applications help students to learn languages online, by using their gadgets. In learning a foreign language, it is not enough to just use one application, because the applications in electronic media have different functions.

According to Bailey & Lee in journal written by Utami Dewi, Many computerized programs support language learners to develop better, so that they can more easily learn languages independently. For example, an English writing

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<sup>4</sup> Leli Efriana, "Problems of Online Learning during Covid-19 Pandemic in EFL Classroom and the Solution," *JELITA: Journal of English Language Teaching and Literature*, vol. 2, no. 1, (February 2021).

correction or evaluation application. The improvement of AWE (Automated Writing Evaluation) software program has enabled language beginners to acquire comments on language and content material further to automatic scores. Many researchers have said that this software program shows a positive effect on changing pupil skills. El-Ebyary & Windeatt said in the equal journal that post-treatment questionnaires, interviews, and focus groups show a effective impact at the students attitudes in the direction of comments.<sup>5</sup> According to researchers, having an application or device that can automatically correct writing can help students think more creatively, increase their insight and increase their interest in writing English. The students are also more confident because they don't need to memorize a lot of tenses to start writing English, they can use automatic writing evaluation to provide feedback and analyze their writing results. Because human feedback is flexible and limited according to students ability, background and needs. However, the automatic evaluation tools can check and score them accurately.

For the example, Grammarly application. It is an easy tool that is very helpful for both students and teachers in writing by means of checking spelling, grammar, and punctuation mistakes and is beneficial for correcting writing to make it extra readable, clear, specific, effective, mistakes-free and has a excessive degree of accuracy.<sup>6</sup> According to Paul Daniels and Davey Leslie, Grammarly turned into capable of discover the missing spaces after the periods and the spelling errors, including the proper noun and provide several

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<sup>5</sup> Utami Dewi, "Grammarly as Automated Writing Evaluation: Its Effectiveness from EFL Students' Perceptions," *Lingua Cultura* 16, no. 2 (May 10, 2023): 155, <https://doi.org/10.21512/lc.v16i2.8315>.

<sup>6</sup> Muhamad Nova, "Utilizing Grammarly In Evaluating Academic Writing: A Narrative Research On Efl Students' Experience," *Premise: Journal of English Education* 7, no. 1 (April 4, 2018): 80, <https://doi.org/10.24127/pj.v7i1.1300>.

opportunity possibilities for the misspelled phrases. It also enables to provide supplied recommendation about verb form, even though frequently no recommended corrections if the sentence is accurate.<sup>7</sup>

The researcher found previous study that discussed the effectiveness of the Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools. The research was conducted by Umu Fadhillah, et al; with the title "Effectiveness of Grammarly Application for Writing English Abstract".<sup>8</sup> Their study aimed to determine the effectiveness of Grammarly for writing abstract English. From experiments conducted by researchers, the resulting data of 0.00 (<0.05), which means that there was the effectiveness of Grammarly application in writing English abstracts text of HangTuah Tanjungpinang students. The researcher conclude, their observe found out that effective Grammarly became used as a device to enhance college students writing of abstract English texts associated with an appropriate use of English grammar.

In conducting this research, the researcher chose SMKN 1 Pamekasan as the research object. Vocational high school (SMK) is an upper-secondary degree vocational schooling provided by using the authorities to prepare a ready-to-use staff. In the learning process carried out by SMK students in addition to improving skills, the ability to understand and master the material is also a reference and benchmark for success in learning activities. Because the ability to understand and master learning material in theory and application is very necessary for SMK students, the handling of the teaching and learning process

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<sup>7</sup> Mahabaleshwara Rao, "Usage of Grammarly – Online Grammar and Spelling Checker Tool at the Health Sciences Library, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal: A Study," n.d.

<sup>8</sup> Umu Fadhillah, et al, Stikes Hang Tuah Tanjungpinang, "Effectiveness of Grammarly Application for Writing English Abstract" 8, no. 12 (2018).

must be even more intensive so that students can be able to master a lesson that is obtained at the school as a whole, so it is not just theory or not only practice, but they have both abilities for their skills in the future.<sup>9</sup> Based on the results of previous observations by researcher and an interview with the English teacher at SMKN 1 Pamekasan, Mrs. Miming that students at SMKN 1 Pamekasan are allowed to bring smartphones, and they often used their smartphones when learning in class. Mrs. Miming also said that they are also allowed to use Google Translate occasionally when learning English.<sup>10</sup> This finally made the researcher interested in conducting it further observations regarding the relationship between technology and student learning, with experiments used the Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools.

Based on the description above, the researcher only used the Grammarly. The existence of Grammarly as a means of learning media or as automated writing evaluation tools that can help students to be interested in learning, because they don't need to memorize all the formulas to used grammar. For this reason, in making this thesis, the researcher is interested in taking the title "The Effectiveness of Grammarly as Automated Writing Evaluation Tools in Writing English Text at SMKN 1 Pamekasan."

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<sup>9</sup> Ruri Nurul Aeni Wulandari, "Pengaruh Motivasi Dan Persepsi Tentang Pembelajaran Mata Diklat Kompetensi Kejuruan Apk Terhadap Hasil Belajar Siswa Di Smk Negeri 1 Pamekasan," *Jurnal Ekonomi Pendidikan Dan Kewirausahaan* 3, no. 1 (March 18, 2017): 35, <https://doi.org/10.26740/jepk.v3n1.p35-47>.

<sup>10</sup> Miming, English Teacher of SMKN 1 Pamekasan, *Direct Interview*, (13 September 2023).

## **B. Problem of Study**

Based on the explanation above, research questions are as follows:

1. Do the students have better writing skills after using the Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools?
2. Is Grammarly effective as automated writing evaluation tools in writing English text of tenth-grade at SMKN 1 Pamekasan?

## **C. Research Objective**

Based on research of problem above, the researcher determined the research objective as follows:

1. To know whether the Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools makes students writing better or not.
2. To know the effectiveness of Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools in writing English text.

## **D. The Significance of Study**

The significance of research describes the usefulness or benefits of research, both scientific (theoretical) and social (practical) used. The researcher hope that this research can contribute to teaching and learning English. It has two main meanings, namely:

### **1. Theoretical Significance**

This research is expected to add to the knowledge of students at SMKN 1 Pamekasan to find out the effect of using the Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools on their writing skills.

## **2. Practical Significance**

### **a. For English Teachers**

The results of this study can help teachers and provide information to teachers, so they can take advantages of the Grammarly in the teaching and learning process, especially in teaching English.

### **b. For Students**

The results of this study can be used as a reference and solution regarding the effect of using the Grammarly on their writing.

### **c. For Other Researchers**

To provide extra information for other researchers who wish to behavior further research in related fields. This research is expected for use as a reference for people who desire to conduct research in teaching English, in particular using the Grammarly application.

### **d. For Researcher**

To find out the effect caused by the Grammarly. At the same time it can add insight to researcher when researching the problem.

### **e. For IAIN Madura**

This research is expected to be useful as additional literature and as an insight into the library of IAIN Madura.

## **E. Scope and Limitation of Study**

To avoid complex problems, this research is limited and focused only on the effect of Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools on students writing skills. The teacher decided the tenth-grade students for the 2023/2024 academic



year at SMKN 1 Pamekasan to conduct the research. The researcher used one class of X AKT to be researched, because of the teacher instructions.

#### **F. The Assumption of Study**

These assumptions are basic assumptions or descriptions, temporary opinions or conclusions, or unproven tentative theories. According to Arief Rahman and Muhammad Zainal Abidin, in phrases of language, as quoted from KBBI online, what is supposed through assumptions are conjectures that are common as a basis or additionally a foundation for wondering because they are considered accurate.<sup>11</sup> Based on the understanding of the assumptions above, the assumptions put forward in this study are:

1. Technological developments are very beneficial in language learning.
2. The Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools can help students in writing English text.

#### **G. Hypothesis of Study**

The hypothesis is a temporary answer to the problem to be studied, therefore the hypothesis is still a presumption and needs to be verified with more complete data.

$H_a$  : Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools is effective on students writing skills.

$H_0$  : Grammarly as automated writing evaluation tools is not effective on students writing skills.

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<sup>11</sup> Arief Rahman and Muhammad Zainal Abidin, "Basic Assumptions of Human Science (Rationalism, Empiricism, Criticism, Intuitionism) for The Development of Science," *FALASIFA: Jurnal Studi Keislaman* 14, no. 1 (March 29, 2023): 24–31, <https://doi.org/10.62097/falasifa.v14i1.1246>.

This research is experimental, therefore the researcher chose an alternative hypothesis, to prove the effectiveness of using Grammarly to improve students writing skills at SMKN 1 Pamekasan.

## **H. Definition of Key Terms**

### **1. Grammarly Application**

The Grammarly is an online application that can help someone correct mistakes in writing. This application is specifically for correcting writing errors in English. These errors can be in the form of spelling errors, punctuation errors, vocabulary errors, and many more features that the Grammarly can provide.

### **2. Automated Writing Evaluation Tools**

Automated Writing Evaluation is an application or device that can correct English writing automatically. The media or tool can facilitate students or someone in learning. Along with the rapid advancement of technology, learning media are also increasingly varied. All kinds of applications started popping up, making it easier for someone to do something effortlessly.

### **3. Writing English Text**

Writing has become part of learning a foreign language. Writing means pouring out the ideas that are in our brains and what we think so that they become readable writing. Writing English text means writing an article, text, journal, thesis, etc in English or a foreign language. Because writing is part of the skill that must be mastered when learning a new or foreign language. By writing we can learn correct grammar, and learn to remember vocabulary.

## I. Previous Study

In this case, the researcher finds some previous research that are relevant to the research that the researcher has conducted. The first study, was by Dahlia Hasan. "*The Use of the Grammarly Application to Improve Students' Grammar Mastery at Sman 18 Makassar*" in 2022. On this thesis the researcher used the experimental approach, conducted in three steps specifically as pre-test, treatment, and post-test. In her thesis focused on the implementation of the Grammarly application and the impact of students grammar within the Grammarly application. The results of this thesis show that students in class XI IPA 2 at SMAN 18 Makassar have experienced a significant increase in students mastery of grammar, especially the simple present tense, after using the Grammarly application. This is evidenced by changes in student scores on the pre-test and post-test, the average score, and the standard deviation.<sup>12</sup>

The second is Utami Dewi, with the title "*Grammarly As Automated Writing Evaluation: Its Effectiveness From EFL Students' Perceptions.*" The purpose of her research was to describe EFL students' perceptions of the effectiveness of Grammarly as an Automated Writing Evaluation (AWE). The respondents of the research were 75 students in an EFL writing class. She used qualitative research, namely given questionnaires and interviews. The results of the questionnaires and interview represent that the Grammarly application has positive impacts on EFL students as an automated writing evaluation.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Dahlia Hasan, "The Use Of The Grammarly Application To Improve Students' Grammar Mastery At Sman 18 Makassar" (Thesis, Bosowa University, Makassar, 2022).

<sup>13</sup> Utami Dewi, "Grammarly as Automated Writing Evaluation."

**Table 1.1. Previous Study**

<b>Writer Name / Year</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Similarities</b>	<b>Dissimilarities</b>
Dahlia Hasan / 2022.	<i>The Use of the Grammarly Application to Improve Students' Grammar Mastery at Sman 18 Makassar.</i>	The impact of students' grammar in the Grammarly Application, especially in writing.	The object of this research is XI IPA 2 at SMAN 18 Makassar. While in this study students at SMKN 1 Pamekasan.
Utami Dewi / 2022.	<i>Grammarly As Automated Writing Evaluation: Its Effectiveness From EFL Students' Perceptions.</i>	Using qualitative approach.	The object of this research was 75 students in an EFL writing class. While in this study students at SMKN 1 Pamekasan.