

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the researcher stated the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, and scope of the research.

#### **A. Background of the Research**

Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are the four skills that a student must master in order to be considered effective in the process of learning and teaching English. Writing is one of the skills that demands all of your attention. Writing is a challenging skill that needs to be acquired. (S. Fahmi & Rachmijati, 2021)

Writing has always been thought to be a more challenging skill to learn than other skills. For students, this is an activity that brings up its own issues. This may be a result of the fact that many students still struggle to apply their grammatical knowledge. After gathering their writing assignments, students receive feedback (Rahma Hakiki, 2021a).

According to (Fitria et al., 2022a), students should be familiar with a wide range of grammatical rules, encompassing everything from article usage to sentence structure and forms. Students who study writing may become dissatisfied and lose motivation due to its complexity. Stated differently, it is challenging for EFL students to grasp this element.

However, researchers found out information that in the 4th semester students had installed Grammarly Writing Assistant by their lecturers, but among them surely not all of them used Grammarly Writing Assistant, therefore researchers conducted preliminary research to find out who uses Grammarly Writing Assistant in the 4th semester. The researcher wants to see how much students understood about Grammarly Writing Assistant when they were writing English texts at the 4<sup>th</sup> semester students of the English Education Department Muria Kudus University.

Grammarly Writing Assistant is one of the most popular online grammar checkers available today. Grammarly Writing Assistant was developed in 2009 by Maz Lytvyn and Alex Shevchenko. According to Sulistyowati (2021), the Grammarly Writing Assistant online website can be used to edit English documents and write to reduce student writing errors. It automatically identifies errors such as language errors, spelling errors, punctuation errors, and handwriting errors.

Grammarly Writing Assistant offers the capacity to recognize words and punctuation, as well as to recognize fragments and provide verb tense references. Also, Grammarly Writing Assistant provides many excellent materials to enhance writing English text.

Previous research has explored the students' perception of using Grammarly Writing Assistant in writing English text. The researchers find the previous research findings, one of them by Yurika & Farahdiba, (2023), indicated that students' perceptions of the premium version of Grammarly Writing Assistant have a lot of positive impacts on students. The second is from Fitria et al. (2022), Grammarly Writing Assistant provides easy-to-understand feedback, both directly and indirectly, as reported by most students.

There are differences between this study and previous studies. In previous studies, researchers mostly used quantitative and mixed methods. In this study, researchers used qualitative research methods. In previous studies, most of them only one instrument to collect data. In this study, researchers used close-ended questionnaires and interviews as instruments that could explore more deeply the perceptions of students towards Grammarly Writing Assistant.

## **B. Statement of the Problem**

Related to the background of the study, the researcher examines the problem statement as follows:

What is the Students' Perception of Using Grammarly Writing Assistant in Writing English Text at the 4<sup>th</sup> semester of English Education Department Muria Kudus University in the academic year 2023/2024?

### **C. The objective of the research**

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

To find out the Student's Perception of Using Grammarly Writing Assistant in Writing English Text at 4th semester of English Education Department Muria Kudus University in the academic year 2023/2024.

### **D. Significance of the Research**

The researcher expects that conducting this research can significantly contribute theoretically and practically.

#### **1. Theoretically**

Theoretically, two possibilities occur after conducting research: they strengthen or weaken previous research. It is said to strengthen if the results are the same or in line with previous research. At the same time, it is said to weaken if the results contradict previous research.

This research aims to make itself a key reference as well as understand how Students' Perceptions of Using Grammarly Writing Assistant in Writing English Texts. By expanding the theoretical framework regarding the development of digital literacy in learning, this study creates new opportunities for future research in this field.

#### **2. Practically**

##### **a. Students**

The researcher hopes that this study can increase students' motivation in writing lessons and help them use Grammarly Writing Assistant efficiently and make students' perceptions of Grammarly Writing Assistant more positive.

##### **b. Other researchers**

The researcher hopes that the findings of this study beneficial to researchers in the future who would like to do studies that are similar to ours.

### **E. Scope of the Research**

In this research, the researcher tried to limit the focus to knowing the Students' Perception of Grammarly Writing Assistant in writing English text.

The researcher took the subject from all classes of the 4th semester students of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in the Academic Year 2023/2024.

#### **F. Operational Definitions**

To avoid ambiguity in this study, the researcher specified the operational definitions of the title.

##### **1. Perception**

The process of individuals being able to recognize objective objects or facts by using individual tools.

##### **2. Writing English text**

The process of producing an English text or piece of writing. It refers to employing sentence structure, spelling, and grammar that follows accepted English communication norms.

##### **3. Grammarly Writing Assistant**

Grammarly Writing Assistant is a platform developed by the company Grammarly Inc. and launched in 2009, which aims to proofread texts for proper punctuation, grammar, and spelling. It can also detect plagiarism, generate style suggestions, improve vocabulary, and assess readability.

##### **4. The 4<sup>th</sup> semester students of English Education Department Muria Kudus University**

The students from 4<sup>th</sup> semester of English Education Department Muria Kudus University.