THE EFFECT OF CANVA APPLICATION TO THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS' WRITING AT SMPN 2 TAROKAN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO:

"It's not always easy, but that's life, be strong cause there better days ahead."
-Mark Lee-

DEDICATION:

To myself,

for surviving all the "I can't do this" moments,

and turning them into "I did it."

Thank you for not quitting.

This skripsi is proof that soft hearts can do hard things.

ABSTRACT

Dinda Rarera. The Effect of Canva Application to the Eighth Grade Students' Writing at SMPN 2 Tarokan, Skripsi. English Language Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. University of Nusantara PGRI Kediri, 11th of July 2024.

Keywords: Writing, Canva Application, Junior High School.

Writing is an essential skill in English learning, yet many junior high school students face challenges such as low motivation, limited vocabulary, and difficulty organizing ideas. To overcome these issues, digital tools like Canva can be integrated into the learning process. This study aims to examine the effect of Canva application on students' writing, specifically in composing procedure texts. The research was conducted at SMPN 2 Tarokan using a quantitative approach with a one-group pre-test and post-test design involving 30 eighth-grade students. Data were collected through writing tests and analysed using descriptive statistics and the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test. The results showed a significant improvement in students' writing performance, with the mean score increasing from 82.75 in the pre-test to 97.25 in the post-test. The significance value of 0.000 indicated a strong positive effect. In conclusion, the use of Canva enhanced students' writing by making the learning process more engaging, visual, and effective in organizing ideas and presenting content clearly.

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines various components, including background of the research, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, purpose of the research, significance of the research and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Writing is one of the essential language skills taught in junior high school as part of the English curriculum. However, many students face difficulties in mastering this skill due to various factors, such as limited vocabulary, lack of grammar knowledge, low motivation, and insufficient exposure to writing activities. Writing requires not only language proficiency but also the ability to organize ideas coherently and express them clearly.

Byrne in Roza (2011), stated, there are five components in writing including (1) Organizing idea, Idea is the most crucial component in writing, without it, it is difficult to compose a meaningful writing; (2) Grammar, Grammar is the indication of proper use of language. It is important to make the writer's writing communicative to a vast variety of readers within diverse situation; (3) Vocabulary, Vocabulary is considered essential in writing as it provides writing with more context of what the writing is telling in the writing with wide range of words; (4) Mechanics, includes Punctuation which helps reader determine intonation while reading and capitalization of the letters; (5) Content, Content is where the writer develops the ideas for their writing.

Writing is also a form of creative expression that allows individuals to explore their imagination and produce unique works. In fiction writing, authors can create new worlds, complex characters, and engaging plots. On the other hand, non-fiction writing allows authors to share their knowledge, experiences, and views on various topics, ranging from science and history to personal opinions and analysis. With advancements in technology, digital tools are increasingly integrated into educational practices to

enhance learning outcomes. Applications like Canva, originally known for its graphic design capabilities, have been repurposed in educational settings to foster creativity and collaboration. Canva's user-friendly interface, variety of templates, and design features make it an ideal tool for teaching and enhancing writing skills. The integration of such tools aligns with 21st-century educational goals, which emphasize digital literacy alongside traditional literacy.

According to Siswanjaya (2021), using Canva in writing activities allows students to incorporate visual elements such as colors, photos, fonts, and graphics into their work. Canva provides the tools students need to construct and develop their writing concepts in a more engaging way. As a result, students can improve their writing skills by utilizing Canva as a technological media that supports both content and creativity. Moreover, the use of Canva introduces students to the integration of technology in language learning, making the writing process more enjoyable and interactive. To support this, the researcher introduces Canva to enhance students' ability in writing procedure texts, which require clarity, sequence, and structure. With Canva, students can design their procedure texts using visual elements that reflect their thoughts and ideas. This freedom allows them to express what they have visualized in their minds and present it in a way that is attractive and reader-friendly.

Writing is a crucial skill that students must develop, encompassing the ability to organize ideas, use appropriate grammar, and express thoughts clearly. However, many students face significant challenges in writing, such as difficulty generating ideas, structuring their writing, and maintaining engagement. To address these issues, this research explores the integration of Canva as a teaching media. Canva's interactive and visually engaging features are proposed to enhance students' writing by providing structured templates, and creative tools. This research investigates how Canva can bridge the gap in improving the writing of eighth-grade students at SMPN 2 Tarokan, aiming to provide a practical solution to their struggles.

B. Identification of the Problem

In writing, students often face several challenges that hinder their development. First, the material is frequently too difficult or monotonous, causing boredom and a lack of motivation. Traditional materials like textbooks or teacher notes tend to be rigid and lack interactive elements that promote creativity and engagement. However, integrating the Canva application can address this issue. Canva offers dynamic, visually appealing materials with templates, illustrations, and design elements that help students organize ideas and structure their writing more effectively. This creates a more engaging and adaptive learning environment.

Teaching strategies in writing classes are often teacher-centered, where instruction is mostly explanatory and does not always accommodate students' individual struggles. By incorporating Canva into writing instruction, teachers can implement more interactive and visually driven strategies. For example, students can use Canva's graphic organizers or storytelling tools to brainstorm, plan, and draft their writing. This encourages student participation and collaboration, fostering creativity and allowing them to express ideas more confidently.

Student behavior also plays a role. According to Zarei et al. (2020), junior high school students often have difficulty articulating their thoughts clearly due to their developmental stage. They require concrete, visual aids to support their learning process. Canva helps overcome this barrier by transforming abstract concepts into visual representations. Students can use images, animations, and layout features to simplify their writing process, making it less intimidating and more accessible.

Lastly, the teaching media used in schools often fails to keep up with technological advancements, limiting students' creativity and interest. Canva, as a modern digital tool, enhances the writing experience by combining visual design with content creation. Its user-friendly interface empowers students to experiment with visual storytelling and produce well-organized writing. Integrating Canva in the classroom bridges the gap between traditional writing instruction and the demands of

the digital age, ultimately improving students' writing in junior high school. By incorporating Canva, teachers can provide an innovative learning experience that resonates with students in the digital era and enhances their ability to write coherent and structured.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification above, the researcher will limit and focus on the teaching media, specifically Canva, as a media to teach students in writing. According to the application software, Canva has various excellent features that make it easy for users to create graphic designs, such as drag and drop tools to arrange elements practically, thousands of ready-made templates for various needs (presentations, posters, infographics, social media, etc.), a complete library of visual elements (icons, illustrations, photos, videos, fonts), real-time collaboration features, and the option to download design results in various formats such as PNG, JPG, and PDF. In addition, Canva also provides AI features such as Magic Write to create automatic text and Background Remover to remove image backgrounds instantly.

The features that students used to create procedure text in Canva include design templates that allow them to choose the appropriate layout to organize procedure steps in a systematic and attractive manner. In addition, students utilize the text tools feature to write the title, objective, and procedure steps with various font options and font sizes. They also use visual elements such as icons, illustrations, and images to clarify each step in the procedure text, making it easier to understand. The drag and drop feature make it easier for students to arrange the layout, and the background or color feature helps beautify the overall appearance of the design. With the combination of these features, students can present procedure text more creatively, informatively, and visually appealing.

The selected material for this study is procedure texts that focus on foods and drinks which is part of the material of eighth-grade students at SMPN 2 Tarokan. The researcher chose C Class of SMPN 2 Tarokan. This class was chosen based on the

initial data obtained, it was found that students' writing was uneven. The research will involve a total of 30 students, consisting of 19 male students and 11 female students. This limitation allows the researcher to focus on evaluating the effective of Canva in enhancing students' writing in procedure texts.

D. Formulation of the Problem

In order to focus the researcher formulates the problem of this research as follows:

- 1. How are the students' writing before being taught using Canva?
- 2. How are the students' writing after being taught using Canva?
- 3. Is there any significant effect of using Canva on students writing?

E. Purpose of the Research

Based on the research problems above, the purpose of this research are:

- 1. To find out student's writing before being taught using Canva.
- 2. To find out student's writing after being taught using Canva.
- 3. To measure the effect of Canva as a media on student's writing.

F. Significance of the Research

1. For Teacher

This research can help teachers develop effective strategies for providing feedback and assessing students' writing projects created using Canva. Understanding the strengths and limitations of the app can facilitate more meaningful evaluation practices.

2. For Student

This research can inform students about the strengths and limitations of using Canva for writing tasks. Understanding how to effectively utilize the app and interpret feedback can support students in refining their writing projects and continuously improving their skills.

3. For Another Researcher

The result of the study will probably be used as the references for those who want to conduct the same type of research.

G. Definition of Key Terms

a. Writing

According to Nunan (2003) defines writing as "the process of thinking to invent ideas, thinking about how to express them, and organizing them into statements and paragraphs that will be clear to a reader." This highlights that writing involves both cognitive and linguistic processes to communicate effectively.

b. Canva

According to John Doe in 2020, Canva is an online graphic design application that allows users to create graphic designs easily without needing high design skills. With Canva, users can create various types of visual content such as posters, invitations, presentations, social media posts, and much more using pre-existing templates or by designing from scratch.

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