Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter is going to discuss the background of the study explain the background of this research, identify the problem to identify the problem, and make some questions related to this research, delimitation of the problem is about describing the boundaries of the study, research objective which based on the problem in the research question, significant of the research explains about to whom this research was made and what the benefit is they can get if they read this, and the last one is the outline of the research.

Background of the Research

In learning a language EFL students need to master four skills, namely, speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Mammadova (2019) said the four main language skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking have always played an important role in the teaching of English. According to Pratama (2020), writing becomes one of the hardest skills because people should make understand the text to the readers so they get the information. Writing is one of the superior communication tools besides speaking. Writing is a way to express students' ideas, but most students are still deeply mistaken in spelling, vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation. Through writing, we can communicate by sending a letter or an e-mail. Or else so many people still choose writing as an effective and efficient method to write something in their blog or book or some short story to deliver the writer's feeling to the readers. Based on the case we can conclude, that writing is one of the skills that every student should master, and students need a tool that can help and guide them to show their mistakes.

According to Setyowati (2016), writing is not just about ideas to write but also the way they compose the elements of writing well. EFL students need effective and efficient strategies to enhance their writing proficiency, therefore EFL teachers integrate creative digital technology as an innovation to help the students solve their problems by introducing the helper Automated Writing Evaluation (AWE) called Grammarly. Ghufron (2019) argued that Grammarly also gives a positive contribution that makes the students easily recognize their mistakes and improve their writing.

Furthermore, a kind of AWE that become popular nowadays because can support EFL students in their writing development. Vidhiasi and Haryani (2020) stated in the past few years the popularization of AWE can help the students detecting on their writing errors. The ease of accessing this program is also the reason why a lot of people download Grammarly for their writing activities purposes. Grammarly is accessible online through a popular web browser such as Chrome, Safari, and Firefox, and this program is compatible with Windows, Mac, Android, and also iOS devices (Grammarly, 2020, as cited in Barrot, 2022). This program can help student write more accurately by giving them automated corrective feedback. Not only help them repair the error, but the use of AWE can also save the writer time that would be otherwise giving feedback on lower-level writing processes (Dizon & Gayed, 2021). However, not only for the students, but this program is also helpful enough in conducting error analysis.

Pratama (2020) argued that by using Grammarly, people are assisted in improving their grammar knowledge so that they can write a text without being afraid to make mistakes. Grammarly is a widely used application. According to Dale and Viethen (2021), today Grammarly is the clear market leader in tools whose primary function is writing assistance. This

application has been downloaded 10 million times in the past 9 years, and it has 6,9 million daily active users (Shah, 2017).

The reason, why the researcher does this research, is because a lot of students use this application as their writing assistance. Based on the informal interview with three students the number of using Grammarly in a private university in Yogyakarta is huge. A lot of their friends use this application for their assistance in writing. According to Mirza et al., (2021), many students use Grammarly to learn and check their Grammar in assignments and they give positive feedback about this application.

Another reason why students use this application is to help them while writing. They also argued that Grammarly is an easy application to help them while writing. One of them is Grammarly's automated corrective feedback, it helps the students while writing because it gives the students real-time feedback. Wang et al., (2013) argued that the use of automated corrective feedback is a way for students in improving their grammar and written accuracy is a positive aspect of the program. Li et al., (2015) also argued that Grammarly is popular in students' scope and this program helps measure students writing. From the explanation above the researcher conclude Grammarly is recommended to use as writing assistance for students. And the advantages of Grammarly make a lot of EFL students especially in the English Language Education Department (ELED) of a private University in Yogyakarta use this application to help them in improving their writing skills.

Based on the mentioned Grammarly, Grammarly is the most familiar AWE used by the students as their writing assistance. According to Dizon and Gayed (2021), after their research and experiment, students that use Grammarly as their assistance in writing produced fewer errors and they can write more vocabulary variation. Fitria (2021) stated that after the use of

Grammarly, students' performance in their writing activity increased because this program is good at checking students writing. It means, using Grammarly for writing assistance can be recommended for the students to assist their writing activity. This program can provide immediate feedback which is very useful to reduce the overtime in writing.

Despite the positive impact offered by Grammarly to help students in their writing activity, Grammarly also has drawbacks in the writing activity. Barrot (2021) stated that the challenges of using Grammarly are sometimes it can overcorrection and limited metalinguistic explanation. Nova (2018) found the drawback of Grammarly is this program cannot check the content of the writing, it can only check the cognitive error and grammar. And sometimes, the overcorrecting from Grammarly makes the meaning of the written changes. So, the students who use Grammarly as their writing assistant must re-read their writing before submit their work.

Identification Problem

This research was conducted in order to find out what the advantages of using Grammarly in students writing activity. The challenges faced by EFL students in improving their writing skills is the reason why they need to use Grammarly as a tool to help them. In EFL students, Grammarly is one of the tools used by students in the ELED. The students use Grammarly as a device to help them in their learning process and to deal with language learning.

There are some of the challenges that have been analyzed by the researcher in the process of learning writing. In the scope of a private university, based on the informal interview conducted with 3 students they said the challenges in the writing process. The first one is a grammatical error/ lack of grammar. This challan comes because of the less experience of

students in the writing and speaking activity. Qian (2002) stated that the understanding of grammar including subject-verb agreement, tenses, article, and word order is important. The grammar difficulties that students face in the writing activity are real.

The second one is the challenges of word choice. From the interview, another challenges that students face in writing activities is difficulties in word choices. They face this challenges because the lack of vocabulary cause students just know the ordinary word and sometimes it makes the students cannot express their thought freely. The use of a word that sounds similar to the intended word but has a different meaning is also the most common error in the students' writing activity. This is important to note because the incorrect selection of words because of different meanings leads to misunderstanding among the reader.

The third one is challenges in sentence structure and word order. For L2 learners, their native language interfered with the target language because of the sentence structure. The error in the sentence structure can cause a different meaning from the sentences. This phenomenon causes a challenge for the student in the writing activity. And because of this student need to find a helper tool to help them with their problems. Furthermore, word order, misspellings, and punctuation it is also a problem in writing.

From the identification of challenges above we can conclude that many students in this private university had a few challenges with their writing activity. The existence of Grammarly makes the students ability to write and express what they thought and felt. Also, can suggest the student be more confident in conveying their ideas into written form as well as maximizing Grammarly to help them find errors in learning writing. The use of Grammarly can shorten the time of the writing process because they provide a real-time grammar correction tool. And this program also can suggest the right sentence structure while writing.

In addition, the perceptions on the use of Grammarly are also found. As a popular tool used by students, Grammarly should be an effective and efficient assistance tool to assist students in writing activities. However, in reality, the low quality of the writing is the source why students need an assistance tool to write. The ease of access of Grammarly in the use of writing process is really useful for the students in the way of learning the writing process. Grammarly is the software that works fast in the check of spelling and also has the most complete features. This suggests that applying Grammarly in the process of learning writing is an effective way for EFL students in developing writing skills. Therefore, this research aims to find out the advantages and challenges of the use of Grammarly in students writing activity.

Delimitation of the Research

The researcher focuses on finding out the advantages of using Grammarly in the process of enhancing students writing skills. Furthermore, researcher also wants to reveal students' challenges in implementing Grammarly based on their opinions. This research focuses on English Language Education Department students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, especially from batch 2019. Those who have used Grammarly in the writing learning activity.

Research Question

1. What are the advantages of using Grammarly for students in enhancing their writing skills according to English Department students' point of view?
2. What are the challenges in the use of Grammarly in the writing learning process according to English Department students' point of view?

The Objective of the Research

Based on the research question, the purposes of the research are:

1. To investigate the advantages of Grammarly in enhancing students writing skills based on English students' points of view.

2. To reveal the challenges students' face in the use of Grammarly in the writing learning process based on English students point of view.

Significance of the Research

The result of the research is expected to give benefit is and contributions to some parties. Therefore, the research significance is addressed to the students, teachers, and other researchers.

For the students

This research will give the students about technology nowadays that can improve their writing skills using Grammarly. By reading this research, the students can get information about the advantages and the challenges of using Grammarly in the writing learning process. After they know the challenges, the students are expected to be more aware of the challenges they will face while using Grammarly in the writing learning process.

For the teacher

This research helps the teacher to be more aware of the advantages of using Grammarly to teach the students about writing. Connect the teacher with the source of information and network professional support. And the last one is after the teacher knows the challenges of using Grammarly, the teacher can decide the appropriate strategies that can be applied to students writing activity.

For the other researcher

By concluding this research, the other researcher can use this finding of the research as the theoretical overview of further research on the same topic and might become a recommendation for further research.

Outline of the Research

This research consists of five chapters and each chapter contains sub-chapters. The first chapter will discuss the introduction which consists of the background of the study, identification problem, delimitation of the research, research question, objective of the research, the significance of the research, and the last one is an outline of the research. For the second chapter, the writer discussed the literature review which consists of the theoretical studies regarding the formulation of the research, relevant to the previous research result, conceptual framework, and hypotheses. Third chapter the researcher would like to elaborate on the research methodology which consists of the research design, research setting, research participant, data collection technique, data collection procedure, and data analysis.

After the researcher completes the research chapters four and five will be discussed. Chapter Four described the finding and discussion of this research. The findings were divided into three main points which were students' perception of Grammarly, the advantages of using Grammarly, and the challenges of using Grammarly. And the last one is chapter five. This chapter contains the conclusion and recommendations taken from this research. The conclusion concludes the important information of this research while the recommendations were aimed at the teachers, students, and other researchers.