Integrating Grammarly Tools to Enhance Writing Efficiency in Senior High School

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Abstract

The background of this research is that the writer wants to examine the use of grammar in improving writing efficacy. The purpose of this study was to find out the application of Grammarly to improve the efficiency of writing skills in senior high schools. Researchers used descriptive qualitative methods by using interviews, observations, and questionnaires. In this study, 30 participants were observed, and at the end of the interview, 8 students with high questionnaire results were taken to be interpreted. Participants are high school students studying in the 2022/2023 school year. The results and discussion show that Grammarly helps high school students learn writing. Students are interested and confident in using Grammarly with the various advantages available during the learning process. This tool is also practical to use and easy to access, so it doesn't make it difficult for students. Students showed positive views of using Grammarly and felt that it was more helpful in exploring writing skills using Grammarly with their various advantages.

Keywords: Grammarly, senior high school, writing efficacy

A. Introduction

Technology has developed in human life in the world. Technological developments have expanded in various education sectors, including the teaching and learning process. The story of technology in life has made the mindset of initially conservative educators change to become more modern. According to Purwanto (1996), learning is a change in behavior that occurs due to experience or training. Technology has developed in education on new trends in language teaching and evaluation (Parra G & Calero S, 2019). In the process of teaching and learning, technology changes learning which was initially monotonous, to become more exciting and accessible. Technological developments in learning require media and tools to learn English effectively. English language skills can be increased by using technology to adjust the student learning process, such as through online learning, videos, games, YouTube, and others (Gilakjani, 2017).

In learning English, there are four skills that students must master, namely reading, speaking, writing, and listening. The use of technology can be applied to language learning, one of which is writing skills. Students can use one of their writing skills to improve their academic abilities. On the other hand, it is also used to express ideas, arguments, interactions, and preparation for work or school. Writing skill is an essential skill for EFL students in
In writing skills, students must master compiling a paragraph and making paragraphs into good text by paying attention to spelling, punctuation, grammar, and organization. In addition, writing skills are also used as a requirement for some communities, workplaces, and schools. Students can also master specific literature in depth in written English (Ariyanttu, 2016).

Students' skills in English lessons are required to speak orally and in writing. Students are asked to be able to fulfill learning goals, one of which is writing texts. The text itself is the unification of an expression, and the text is grouped into several types: argumentative, narrative, and informative (Tiryaki & Yilmaz, 2016). Students are asked to produce various kinds of readers with different functions and purposes in the form of formal research as an academic requirement. One problem is that teachers rarely use online media in writing classes. Students are not taught to write often; teachers only stick to textbooks in learning activities. So that students are not interested in writing and do not understand writing skills.

Writing is a communication activity to express thoughts, feelings, and desires to others written. Excellent writing is complex; therefore, it needs proficiency in various skills to write effectively. Higher level planning and organizing skills lower spelling, punctuation, word choice, and so on. Their language skills are weak, will faced great difficulty in writing. To avoid difficulties in writing, there are five elements of writing that students should pay attention to. First is the main idea. This relates to the main idea or the whole subject that is the topic of discussion. The second is organization. This element relates to how pictures are presented in writing. In other words, it is about how ideas are divided into the structure of the text the beginning, middle, and end. The three supporting materials. This matter relates to the main points listed in the main idea. The fourth is an expression, choice of words, and point of view. It focuses on the tone of the writing and shows the author's attitude toward the topic of discussion. This attitude will determine the choice of vocabulary and how the writer shares ideas. The last is spelling, grammar, language, and punctuation. Good writing requires these three things to create effective communication between writers and readers to express ideas clearly and accurately. So, writing difficulties can be solved by utilizing technology in learning.

Teachers must pay attention to the conditions of students towards technology-based learning to develop the skills possessed by students. So, what the teacher has to do is look for online-based technology that is suitable for developing students' writing skills. This technology is a tool for solving student problems. Teachers can use several software to help develop students' English skills in the learning process, namely Grammarly, Ms. Word, Facebook, and Wiki (Kabilan. et al., 2018). Developing writing skills can be achieved by applying computer technology to the teaching and learning process of English.

One of the widespread technologies nowadays is Grammarly which is used for online grammar checkers. 2009 was the year that Maz Lytvyn and Alex Shevchenko founded Grammarly. Grammarly online proofreading is a website that can be used as a document checker to minimize research errors in grammatical use, such as spelling errors, word choice, grammatical errors, and punctuation errors. Grammarly has features to identify fragments and
present references regarding the forms of verbs to create excellent and correct sentences (Daniels & Lestie, 2013). Various good features are offered in Grammarly to improve writing skills.

The benefits of using Grammarly are that it can increase self-confidence, motivation, and involvement in the teaching and learning process. So that if students experience writing errors, students are not afraid because this tool can correct authorship errors. That way, students are expected not to hesitate to write because they can update and find authorship errors using the Grammarly tool (Jayavalan & Rozali 2018). Using Grammarly helps students to determine the most appropriate words to make an essay. Therefore, automatic internet software can develop students' writing skills by implementing various features to minimize errors in writing.

The problems described above-made researchers investigate effective online software that can be used to develop students' writing skills in the learning process. So that researchers can apply the Grammarly tool, which helps check authorship on punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, and grammar errors. In addition, another feature is checking for grammatical errors by presenting the correct use of grammatical rules. Grammarly can offer the right choice of words (word choice) and the use of vocabulary according to the context in the discussion of the sentence. Applying automatic feedback will give teachers high-level writing skills, further developing students' writing enthusiasm and quality.

B. Literature Review

The primary purpose of learning English using Grammarly learning technology is to help students improve their knowledge skills related to writing abilities. As we know, in Grammarly, features can add insight to students. For example, when students write in one paragraph in English, Grammarly will directly detect the writing, including content, Organization, Vocabulary, Grammar, and mechanics. After finishing catching the paper, authorship errors will immediately appear, and recommendations for changes for each of these errors will be made.

According to Fahmi & Cahyono (2021), Grammarly is a web application used to check writing and grammar in English, which has various advantages in the completeness of the grammar features. These features include Grammar Checker, Plagiarism Checker, and Proofreading, which can take advantage of this service for free. Functionally in learning, Grammarly can improve students' ability to understand every problem in writing that they have made. In addition, Fitria (2021) added that the advantages of applying Grammarly technology in learning make learning more modern and innovative for millennial students.

According to Ghufron & Rosyida (2018), Grammarly is one of the best grammar checkers in the market. It proves invaluable for students who want to improve their writing and English vocabulary, and the Plagiarism checker can also help avoid the adverse effects of writing only from other sources. The application in the classroom of Grammarly allows for correcting the wrong elements of writing. This becomes natural when Grammarly becomes a learning technology widely used by teachers, especially students learning English. Ambarwati
(2021) added that at the senior high school level, Grammarly is likened to being a booster for students to learn English to the fullest.

In contrast, Riana et al. (2022) stated that Grammarly is the latest learning technology which sometimes has obstacles such as lagging and time-consuming in accessing the application. As it is known that the connection to access this technology must be stable so that this technology can run efficiently. In addition, the more you write, the fewer adequate words. Of course, there will be many mistakes that must be corrected. In terms of work effectiveness, Grammarly is less effective because it takes a lot of time. Fitria (2022) One of my biggest complaints with Grammarly is that some of its suggestions are just plain wrong. While they do an admirable job of detecting most errors and making suggestions accordingly, they sometimes fall short in writing context.

C. Research Methodology

In this study, researchers used descriptive qualitative research to describe the study's results. Descriptive qualitative research is based on facts that form information data. This type of research aims to explain in detail related to phenomena and develop theories and social complexities that exist in education related to the application of Grammarly technology in learning English. Application of Grammarly tools to improve writing skills. Work best in our class to seek classroom solutions and improve student learning. Fahmi & Cahyono (2021) argue that classroom action research is carried out in several steps. First, researchers make observations related to teaching to overcome problems in learning and provide questionnaires. The next step is to withdraw the questionnaire and follow by observing the teaching and learning activities. The third is to reflect on how the strategy improves or influences students' writing skills and analysis. Finally, provide conclusions and results of the discussion. This research was conducted at a tenth-grade senior high school in Malang.

The researcher chose this school because the school applies grammatical learning technology in learning English. In addition, the school is also a bilingual school, making it easier to conduct this research. Moreover, this research can also find out this school's condition and the problems students face in writing English. Class X MIPA 1, the research subject, is one of the bilingual-based classes. This class has 30 (thirty) students consisting of 10 boys and 20 girls in the 2022/2023 academic year.

According to Mubarok et al. (2020), Research Instruments are tools that researchers select and use in collecting activities so that these activities become systematic. The instruments used in this study include observations, questionnaires, and interviews. From a total of 30 students, eight samples of students will be taken related to the use of Grammarly in learning. Besides that, it is also supported by the syllabus and lesson plans for English teachers, which have been prepared using the Grammarly tool and equipped with student worksheets (LKS). Observations were used to determine the process of developing students' learning motivation classically from the words of observers, interviews to find out how students' learning motivation developed qualitatively and students' responses to the methods used, and questionnaires to determine students' assessment of their level of motivation.
D. Results and Discussion

1. The definition of Grammarly

Grammarly is an Online grammar checker and spell checker in English structure and correcting mistakes in writing. Grammarly provides correct word recommendations if there are wrong words in the English system. Grammarly can be integrated into the Microsoft Word application. Making it easier for users to check for errors in the English structure provided that the computer must be connected to the internet. Besides that, Grammarly can also be used by all aspects of students and teachers as support for success in writing.

In general, Grammarly is divided into two types, namely Grammarly premium and free. The difference lies in the availability of features in its use. For premium Grammarly, users must pay the developer to access all menus in the application. The advantage of Grammarly premium is that it can do writing and work more perfectly. All menu features can provide corrections and suggestions to writers to change authorship that is not by grammar and other aspects. Features of Grammarly premium, usually, there is time to access the menu in Grammarly. After the access limit is exhausted, the user must pay again for the facilities available at Grammarly.

Meanwhile, Grammarly that the free version is a type of Grammarly that provides free access to Grammarly. In terms of convenience, using the Grammarly free version is incomplete because there are limitations in accessing the menus in the application. The free version's authorship is still lacking because the user's authorship cannot be entirely corrected because of these limitations.

Besides that, terms of the use of Grammarly can be grouped into advantages and disadvantages:

a. The benefits of Grammarly in learning

Grammarly will be beneficial for writers, teachers, and students. This is because editing their work quickly will be difficult if you rely only on manual corrections. So, you must need the application to edit promptly and publish articles. Without the help of a grammar checker, it won't be easy and will take a long time. The function of the application is that it can help find errors missed when writing, both in grammar and punctuation. One of the essential application features is the plagiarism checker. This is because it can help writers minimize problems so they don't happen. In general, the user can be divided into five main benefits.

First, which can be integrated with any platform, the program that most users use today is the Grammarly Premium service. Although it is not available for specific needs for some people, Grammarly's web-based service is integrated with platforms such as Microsoft Office, Android, iOS and iPadOS, Browser Extensions, and Google Docs. With extensive application integration, Grammarly supports professional blogging, business communication, personal learning, and academic writing.

Second, users can try free features. Grammarly comes in several offers, and one of them is a free service. It's just that there are more shortcomings than the Premium and
Business versions. For example, a text has been detected with a grammar error, but Grammarly makes no suggestions for fixing it. This scheme works by signing up for a free plan with a 30-day trial period. Despite its many flaws, the accessible version of Grammarly provides an overview of the user experience.

Third, Grammarly premium presents more complete features still. The advantage of Grammarly Premium, this service has a proofreader or editor, which is more cost-effective than hiring someone. Like a personal assistant, this service is ready to accompany its users, prepared to help whenever needed as long as they are connected to the internet. Grammarly helps users more easily find mistakes that can sometimes still slip through after double-checking. Likewise, the Grammarly Business program features differ significantly from the Premium version. This service offers an alternative to optimize the quality of the user's text.

Fourth, more than just spell-checking tools currently, many spell-checking tools are installed in browsers and document applications such as Microsoft Word. They offer advanced features according to users' needs, but Grammarly supports almost perfect features. Technically, Grammarly helps you focus on improving what you write. One of them is the tone detector feature. In addition, this web service performs its corrections in four different zones. The four zones highlight correctness, clarity, engagement, and delivery. Corrections of all these zones appear in different color codes for better management.

Finally, Plagiarism Check For some people, the plagiarism feature may not be necessary. But different from the needs of academics and students. The plagiarism checker helps authenticate writing and provide a solid identity for the author. In a business context, especially for website content production, search engines hate duplicate content, and this action also triggers a litigation lawsuit. All of these fears can be overcome by testing your writing on the plagiarism checker feature in Grammarly.

b. The weaknesses of Grammarly in learning

If you already know some of the advantages, the next thing you need to know is that there are some drawbacks to the Grammarly application. Most of these deficiencies are candid reviews from the wearer, especially among advanced English speakers. First, Performance is slow for considerable text editing. Most people say Grammarly's drawback lies in it often lags when operating large files. This usually happens when checking reaches 1,000 words. Correction continues to weaken as the number of observations increases. Second, the Clarity Feature is Less Optimal. In this feature, only the passive form is corrected, and there is no suggestion to change it to active. Whereas for research purposes, more use of passive sentences to change the sentence's focus. Third, the plagiarism feature is not extensive. The plagiarism feature only checks plagiarism from the writing database on website pages. This has not yet been proven whether plagiarism is for journal publication. The part detected as plagiarism is usually only the general writing part.

So, from the above description, both in terms of advantages and disadvantages, it can be concluded that the Grammarly application must be adapted to the user's abilities because if you prioritize Grammarly without any self-correction, it will cause errors in
writing. As it is known that technological sophistication must be balanced with the power of thought of the writer so that skills in writing become more enhanced and maximized.

2. The view of Grammarly software

Figure 1
The view of Grammarly software

Based on the picture above shows the initial appearance of the Grammarly application. For students, directly search for the application through the official website on Google. When they have entered the web, students can enter a personal email to log into the software. When the username does not exist, directly on the web, students can register by clicking "I don't have an account." After that, you can enter the name and password created before. When the user has registered, they can check their personal Gmail to verify the registration that Grammarly sent to their email. Then, users can return to the start page on Grammarly and immediately log in to the main homepage.

Meanwhile, click "already have an account" for users who already have a Gmail account. Then you can enter the email and password that were previously registered by clicking login. Directly the user will be taken to the main page of Grammarly.

3. The view of Grammarly Account

Figure 2
The view of Grammarly Account

Based on the picture above shows the initial appearance of the Grammarly application. For students, directly search for the application through the official website on Google. When they have entered the web, students can enter a personal email to log into the software. When the username does not exist, directly on the web, students can register by clicking "I don't have an account." After that, you can enter the name and password created before. When the user has registered, they can check their personal Gmail to verify the registration that Grammarly sent to their email. Then, users can return to the start page on Grammarly and immediately log in to the main homepage.

Meanwhile, click "already have an account" for users who already have a Gmail account. Then you can enter the email and password that were previously registered by clicking login. Directly the user will be taken to the main page of Grammarly.
sentence they want to check. Usually, users can copy their writing results and immediately Ctrl-V into the leading software. After that, a user error will appear that needs to be corrected. After knowing the function of the main page layer in Grammarly, users can understand the menu function in the top corner, which includes the overall score, goals, all suggestions, correctness, clarity, and engagement. The overall score is the overall result resulting from the user's authorship. Usually, a score below 70 will be a different color from a score above 70. Furthermore, goals in the proper corner function as an adjustment to the use of sentences for the audience in formal, neutral, and informal. In addition to the right corner under Goals, all suggestions provide recommendations to the author regarding sentences that are still wrong with the tips given by grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

Besides that, there is correctness on the main screen's right side, which functions to correct wrong sentences. Usually, the unjust sentence will be underlined in red; don't forget to follow it with suggestions for changing the correct sentence. Furthermore, the clarity function in the lower right corner serves as a suggestion for sentence clarity which is usually given a blue underline color in sentences that are not appropriate and the effectiveness of a sentence that is too monotonous. Finally, the function of engagement is to make sentences use more effective words and avoid repeating words in sentences. A blue line usually indicates it in sentences that need to be corrected. Of all the menu functions, there are limitations between the premium and free versions of Grammarly. So that all can be accessed when they have Grammarly premium.

4. How to use grammar software

Writing English text according to the rules for writing English is an absolute must be obeyed. Some micro errors such as verb agreements, phrases, wordiness, or the use of words that are not effective and efficient must be avoided by a writer, such as integrating an automatic grammar correction tool, namely Grammarly. The benefit of Grammarly is that meaningful writing can be presented well and easily understood by readers. In addition, in producing good academic papers, one or more writers need precision, patience, and supporting tools to help writing texts become relatively more straightforward.

Figure 3
How to use grammar software

Based on the picture shows that there is an error in the English sentence. The feature in Grammarly corrects automatically related grammatical errors that occur by
Several preliminary studies related to the use of Grammarly have been carried out. Riana et al. (2022) emphasized that the use of Grammarly should be based on being guided by the tutor himself so that students do not revise grammar alone. Ghufron & Rosyida (2018) argues that Grammarly can detect grammatical errors. Still, the critical role of the writer in the context of writing is something that seems very difficult to replace its part with artificial intelligence. Ambarwati (2021) explores grammatical suitability in formative feedback through a narrative approach. Fitriana & Nurazni (2022) stated that Grammarly tone detection has helped writers understand how to write better from a pragmatic angle.

5. The result of Students' Writing Using Grammarly

Below is an example and the results of assessing student writing through Grammarly as follows:

Figure 4
The result of Students' Writing Using Grammarly

Based on the results above, it can be seen that the results of the English students' scores in writing short essays about introducing themselves reached 71 out of 100. These results show the content's quality in the form of word choices in writing. The image shows the initial results and has not been fixed regarding existing content. As we know, in the picture above, there are red lines on some words, which indicate errors in the choice of words by the author. After that, a check is carried out by fixing the color of the word underlined in red. The score will reach 100. The higher the score, it will show how the quality of the authorship produced. Every improvement in Grammarly is a suggestion adjusted directly by the software to a theme written now by the author.
F. Features of the Grammarly Application

a. Spelling and grammar check

Figure 5
Spelling and grammar check feature

Using this application can check errors contained in an article. If there is an error, Grammarly will display a line under the word misused in a sentence. On the right side, several words suggested by Grammarly will appear which are more appropriate to use in the sentences made.

b. The use of punctuation check

Figure 6
The use of punctuation check feature

Besides checking for incorrect grammar, Grammarly can also correct the use of punctuation marks that are not quite right in authorship. For example, if punctuation marks are placed incorrectly or punctuation marks are incomplete.

c. Explanations and word suggestions

Picture 7
Explanations and word suggestions feature
This feature is one feature that helps writers improve their authorship. Explanations and word suggestions are on the right bat. Word suggestions will appear if words are inappropriate in a sentence. Word suggestions are sometimes not just one choice, and Grammarly suggests several options for writers.

d. Check for plagiarism

**Figure 8**
**Plagiarism check feature**

In the Grammarly application, there is also a plagiarism feature where this feature is used to check Turnitin in an article.

e. Check for repeated words

**Figure 9**
**Repeated words check feature**

learning. Computer meditation changes one way or another, according to Hubbard's theory. In learning listening, there are many methods that can be used. In the current era, most of the listening lessons have used technology and are very varied. The method used in learning listening is very important for the success of learning. Most students find it difficult if listening to native speakers speak too fast. There are many ways that teachers use listening learning such as music, videos, films, and others.
Grammarly doesn't just check the word once. If the writer has chosen word suggestions, then Grammarly will check again whether the target words in a sentence are correct. If it's still not quite right, the word suggestions in the bar to the right of way appear again.

f. Explaining grammar rules

**Figure 10**

Grammar rules explanation feature

![Grammar rules explanation feature](image)

This is one of the features that can be utilized for students who are advanced in using Grammarly. With this feature, students can improve their writing and at the same time understand grammar rules because Grammarly explains the grammar rules in detail, so students can also understand the grammatical structure at the same time.

g. Can be integrated with Microsoft Office

**Figure 11**

Microsoft Office add-on feature

![Microsoft Office add-on feature](image)

Besides being able to be used directly in the application, Grammarly can also be connected to MS Word. So that if the writer wants to check for errors in spelling and grammar, students do not need to transfer files from Word to the application.

After the questionnaire administration, the researcher found some results which later explained by stating the parts of each statement in the questionnaire. Then, the results are presented as follows.

The first statement of 5 participants mentioned that they had known the use of grammar since entering senior high school. The presentation of 8 samples showed that 4 participants already knew the software, and the resulting yield, if specified, becomes 100%. This
statement is very significant because it relates to when grammar started to help their learning activities when learning English in high school. Furthermore, in the second question, the statement in the questionnaire format found that 60% of participants would use grammar on an ongoing basis after they had completed the study period, and only 40% stated that only during the study would they do this. However, those who use grammar are still guided by a tutor. It is in line with Ghufron & Rosyida's (2018) statement that the supervisor must continue to oversee improving the manuscripts that students write even though they have used Grammarly.

Furthermore, based on the choice of statements in the questionnaire questions, the authors know that the high frequency of appearances related to how to use grammar is during the writing process in Microsoft office as much as 20%; Meanwhile, students who directly access the web are as much as 40% and with an upgrade system as much as 20%; and finally with mobile phones based on Android/IOS as much as 20%. Based on the frequency counts of time shared by the participants, the authors know that the regular neatness of using grammar per week is 60%, while in the daily use format, it is up to 40%. All are known when they write their English writing assignments. The results of this choice are in line with what was stated by Mubarok et al. (2020) that Grammarly can be accessed online through several browsers or search engines, and notable features such as Chrome, Safari, and firefox and support its operation on Mac, Windows, Android, and iOS device.

In terms of when the participants used Grammarly, 100% of the participants chose to write English writing assignments. Meanwhile, participants used grammar to learn vocabulary, as much as 80%. In addition, the participants used Grammarly for artificial intelligence-based writing assistance, as much as 60%. This shows that the dominance of grammar occurs when the participants write English text (English text). Researchers can understand this because Grammarly can detect errors in writing scientific papers automatically, as stated (Daroina et al., 2022). it is in line with the research of Ashrafganjoe et al. (2022) state that the Grammarly thesis is helpful in their writing. Grammarly is considered easy to use, has good suggestions and explanations for grammatical errors, has good grammatical accuracy, and has faster corrections.

Besides that, regarding self-confidence when using Grammarly, participants prefer points to be more confident with a frequency range of 85% and participants slightly less secure by 5%. Finally, participants who chose the 'not confident' option reached 10%. This is because, for the free version of the Grammarly feature, access limitations make their authorship inaccurate. Confidence is the most significant proportion point because it is recognized by Koltovskaia (2022) that Grammarly is a good learning tool and can make the learning process more effective when applied to language learning.

Furthermore, 80% of participants prefer to use support or recommendations from Grammarly conditionally or do not follow the advice from Grammarly. This may be influenced by the needs and the type of English text needed, so it is not possible to use it as a whole based on the recommendations given by the grammar itself. 20% of participants used overall recommendations on Grammarly without checking word compatibility. This percentage shows that some students prefer to use whole words. The researcher found that grammar helped their English task related to grammar correction. Grammarly helps them
identify errors and correct errors in their texts and directs them to become independent learners (Javier, 2022).

In short, it can be concluded that in the discussion regarding the use of Grammarly, 8 participants gave a positive view of their assistance when writing English writing and this research has provided a description that Grammarly offers assistance to high school students in learning English through automatic feedback with learning technology latest. This is in line with what Daroina et al. (2022) stated effective learning technology is when it can be applied in education and the object being taught can feel comfortable. In addition, introducing grammar in high school can help participants reduce writing problems in English, such as assignments and others. This statement is in line with research from (Koltovskaia, 2022).

E. Conclusion and Suggestion

Using Grammarly greatly facilitates senior high school students in developing their writing skills. Students will be more confident when using Grammarly in their writing. So, in conclusion, the researcher found that 80% of high school students prefer to use the recommendations and support from Grammarly or not to follow Grammarly's suggestions. 20% of participants used overall recommendations in Grammarly without checking word compatibility. This percentage indicates that some students prefer to use whole words. The researcher found that the grammar helped them in their English grammar correction task. Grammarly helps them find mistakes and correct errors in their texts, making them independent learners. In summary, when discussing the use of Grammarly, 8 participants commented positively on its support in writing English. This study provides an overview of how Grammarly helps high school students learn English automatically.

References


