



EXPLORING STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF GRAMMARLY AS A TOOL FOR ENHANCING GRAMMAR ACCURACY IN WRITING

Isli Iriani Indiah Pane¹, Alvindi*², Dimas³, Idris Sadri⁴

¹Universitas Negeri Medan, Indonesia

^{2,3,4}Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara Medan, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

Mastering the structural aspects of language is a crucial component of academic writing. However, students often make intentional or unintentional errors during the writing process due to a limited understanding of grammatical principles and conventions. Careful revision and editing are vital to minimizing these errors, but technological tools such as Grammarly have become popular aids for students in checking sentence structure and grammar. This study investigates students' perceptions of Grammarly, focusing on its perceived advantages and disadvantages as a grammar-checking tool. Employing a qualitative descriptive approach, data were collected through a questionnaire distributed to 25 students. The findings reveal that while Grammarly offers notable benefits, such as ease of use and immediate feedback, 89.5% of students identified limitations that reduce its effectiveness. Specifically, 50.8% of respondents highlighted disadvantages, whereas 45.5% acknowledged advantages. Additionally, 42.9% of students expressed mixed sentiments regarding Grammarly's overall utility. These findings provide insights into the nuanced role of Grammarly in supporting students' academic writing and highlight areas for improvement in its application.

Keyword: Students, perception, advantages, disadvantages, grammar, grammarly

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CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

Name: Alvindi

Address Jl. R.Mangun
Muka Raya No.11, Kota
Jakarta Timur, Daerah
Khusus Ibukota Jakarta
13220

e-mail:

alvindi0304213071@uinsu.ac.id

INTRODUCTION

For students, particularly those in higher education, academic assignments often pose significant challenges. These tasks encompass a wide range of activities, from solving problems and memorizing concepts to producing extended written works such as essays, reports, and academic papers. Writing, as a fundamental mode of communication, involves expressing ideas, thoughts, and information to an audience through structured and coherent language. It encompasses various forms, including creative, technical, and academic writing, and serves diverse purposes such as communication, education, and persuasion (Reiger, 2020). Academic writing, in particular, necessitates adherence to specific conventions and standards that demand meticulous attention to detail, making it a challenging yet essential skill for students to master.



Producing well-structured academic writing requires extensive time, effort, and critical thinking. It involves thorough research, synthesis of relevant sources, and the articulation of arguments in a clear, logical, and engaging manner. Additionally, academic writing demands strict adherence to formatting conventions, grammatical accuracy, and appropriate vocabulary. Given the complexity of this process, many students struggle to meet the high expectations of academic writing, often feeling overwhelmed by the intricate requirements and the necessity for precision. As a result, technological tools like Grammarly have gained popularity among students for their ability to support the editing process, offering features that correct grammatical errors and enhance the formality of written language.

Writing is typically approached through four key stages: idea generation (brainstorming), outlining, drafting, and editing (Brokaw, 2022). Each of these stages plays a crucial role in ensuring that the final output is clear, coherent, and well-structured. Brainstorming involves generating ideas and gathering relevant information about a topic. Outlining organizes these ideas into a logical structure, creating a roadmap for the writing process. Drafting translates these structured ideas into sentences and paragraphs, forming the initial version of the text. Finally, the editing stage involves reviewing and revising the draft to improve clarity, coherence, and effectiveness. Editing, often regarded as the most challenging stage, requires meticulous attention to detail to identify and correct both intentional and unintentional errors made during earlier stages of writing. It is at this stage that tools like Grammarly become particularly valuable, providing automated suggestions for grammar, punctuation, and word choice to enhance the quality of the text.

Grammarly is a widely used application designed to assist writers in producing grammatically accurate and stylistically appropriate text. By identifying errors and offering suggestions for improvement, Grammarly facilitates the editing process, making it more accessible and efficient. One of the key features of Grammarly is its ability to transition casual writing into more formal academic language, addressing common issues such as inconsistent verb usage, misplaced modifiers, and awkward phrasing. The application also offers real-time feedback, enabling users to make immediate corrections and learn from their mistakes. As a result, Grammarly has become a popular tool among students, particularly those in higher education, who seek to enhance the quality of their academic writing.

This study builds on previous research examining the use of Grammarly in the writing process. For example, Pratama (2021) explored students' perceptions of Grammarly as an online grammar-checking tool, analyzing its utility in addressing grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors. The study revealed that students appreciated the simplicity of Grammarly and its effectiveness in improving the technical aspects of their writing. However, the research also identified challenges, such as technical limitations and difficulties understanding the tool's suggestions. Similarly, Fitria (2021) highlighted Grammarly's role in helping students identify and rectify grammatical errors, which is crucial for enhancing clarity and coherence in academic writing. According to Fitria, one of the most significant benefits of using Grammarly is its ability to assist students in recognizing and correcting syntactic errors, thereby ensuring that their writing is error-free and easy to understand. However, issues such as reliance on internet connectivity and the need for user training persist, as noted by Ananda, Nisa, and Safura (2021). Their study highlighted that while most students had a positive view of Grammarly as a tool for learning and checking grammar, challenges such as connectivity issues and a lack of



understanding of Grammarly's feedback limited its effectiveness. These findings underscore the need for further exploration of Grammarly's benefits and drawbacks from the perspective of students.

Writing well-structured and understandable essays and academic papers is a skill that requires significant practice and development. Students often face challenges related to language proficiency, particularly in non-native English-speaking contexts, where mastering grammatical accuracy and stylistic conventions can be daunting. In such scenarios, tools like Grammarly provide essential support by automating aspects of the editing process. Grammarly's capabilities extend beyond basic grammar and spelling checks to include suggestions for improving sentence structure, tone, and overall readability. This functionality is especially valuable for students who are developing their academic writing skills, as it provides immediate feedback and facilitates self-directed learning.

The editing stage of the writing process is where Grammarly demonstrates its greatest utility. At this stage, writers must review their entire text, identifying and correcting errors that may have been overlooked during the drafting process. This includes grammatical mistakes, stylistic inconsistencies, and structural weaknesses. Grammarly streamlines this process by offering a user-friendly interface and a range of customizable features that cater to the specific needs of academic writers. For instance, the tool allows users to adjust settings based on the intended audience, tone, and formality level, ensuring that the final output aligns with academic conventions. Additionally, Grammarly's integration with popular word processors and web browsers makes it a convenient and accessible tool for students.

Despite its many advantages, Grammarly is not without limitations. As noted in previous studies, some students encounter challenges when using the application, including difficulties interpreting its feedback and resolving technical issues. These challenges can hinder the tool's effectiveness and limit its potential as a learning resource. Moreover, Grammarly's reliance on internet connectivity poses a barrier for students in areas with limited access to stable online services. Another concern is the tool's inability to fully understand context and nuance, which can result in inaccurate or irrelevant suggestions. For example, Grammarly may flag sentences that deviate from standard grammar rules but are intentionally constructed for stylistic or rhetorical purposes. Such limitations highlight the importance of using Grammarly as a supplementary tool rather than a replacement for critical thinking and human judgment in the writing process.

This study aims to provide a deeper understanding of students' perceptions of Grammarly as a grammar-checking tool in academic writing. Specifically, it seeks to explore the advantages and disadvantages of using Grammarly from the perspective of English Department students. By analyzing students' experiences and feedback, the study will identify the specific benefits that Grammarly offers in improving writing skills, such as enhanced grammatical accuracy, better sentence structure, and increased confidence in academic writing. Additionally, the research will examine the challenges and limitations that students face when using Grammarly, including technical issues, misinterpretation of feedback, and dependency on the tool.

The findings of this study will offer valuable insights into the role of Grammarly in supporting English language teaching and learning. By highlighting both the strengths and weaknesses of the tool, the research will provide recommendations for optimizing its use in



educational settings. For instance, integrating Grammarly into classroom activities and providing training on its effective use could enhance its utility as a learning resource. Furthermore, understanding the limitations of Grammarly will help educators and students adopt a balanced approach, ensuring that the tool complements rather than replaces traditional writing instruction.

This study seeks to contribute to the ongoing discourse on the use of digital tools in academic writing, with a specific focus on Grammarly as a grammar-checking application. By examining students' perceptions and experiences, the research will shed light on the practical implications of using Grammarly in academic contexts and offer guidance for its integration into English language teaching and learning practices.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Student's Perception

Students' perceptions encompass their interpretations and understandings of various aspects of their educational experiences, including teaching methodologies, assessment practices, and the overall learning environment. These perceptions reflect their beliefs, attitudes, and opinions about academic performance, as well as their expectations and aspirations in education (Ghosh, Brooks, Ranmuthugala, & Bowles, 2020). Several factors influence students' perceptions, such as prior experiences, cultural background, and individual characteristics (Pachpor, Athavale, & Dabadghav, 2021). Recognizing and analyzing these perceptions is critical for educators and researchers aiming to enhance teaching practices, improve learning outcomes, and contribute to the accreditation of academic programs (Doré, Terriault, & Belleau, 2019).

Ponti (as cited in Oktaviani et al., 2022) describes perception as the cognitive process through which individuals form thoughts and communicate them in ways that can influence others' understanding of a concept or situation. Similarly, William (2014) defines perception as the act of interpreting and conveying personal insights to others. According to the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, perception refers to how individuals think about or conceptualize something, their ability to quickly understand it through sensory inputs such as hearing, sight, and other senses (Oktaviani et al., 2022). In the context of student learning, perceptions are often associated with their preferences, such as auditory, kinesthetic, visual, and reading/writing styles, and reflect their beliefs and attitudes toward a given phenomenon (Fitriana & Nurazni, 2022).

Irwanto (as cited in Oktaviani et al., 2022) identifies two primary types of perceptions that emerge from the interaction between an individual and an object: positive and negative. Positive perceptions involve constructive interpretations and favorable evaluations, while negative perceptions result in critical or adverse assessments. These perceptions significantly influence individuals' attitudes and actions, underscoring the importance of understanding them in educational research. By exploring both positive and negative perceptions, educators and researchers can gain insights into the strengths and limitations of tools like Grammarly in enhancing students' writing skills.

Grammar



Proficiency in English necessitates a thorough understanding of grammar, which serves as a fundamental component of language mastery. Putri and Fitriawati (2020) define grammar as a systematic framework and regulatory mechanism that governs sentence construction. They argue that without grammar, it is impossible to convey clear meaning within a sentence. This highlights the importance of studying grammar, as it enables individuals to construct and organize sentences accurately, thereby facilitating both verbal and non-verbal communication.

Various scholars have offered definitions and perspectives on grammar. Yule (2006) describes grammar as the analysis of phrases and sentences within a language's structure, focusing on their arrangement and relationships. Brinton (2000) conceptualizes grammar as a set, system, or structured framework of rules governing the functional operation of a language. Similarly, Weaver (1996) delineates grammar into two primary definitions: the rules or conventions governing language usage and the syntactic description of a language's structure. Richards and Schmidt (2010) further elaborate on grammar as encompassing the structural organization of a language and its units, which can be systematically combined to form coherent sentences.

Grammarly

Grammarly is a widely recognized platform designed to identify and correct grammatical errors, and it has become a popular tool among students at schools and universities. Established in 2009 by Max Lytvyn and Alex Shevchenko, Grammarly is defined by Karyuatry (2018) as an online proofreading service that scans texts or documents to detect grammatical issues. This includes errors such as punctuation, misspellings, and more. Daniels and Leslie (as cited in Oktaviani et al., 2022) highlight that Grammarly not only identifies word fragments and corrects misused punctuation but also provides verbal suggestions to enhance clarity and coherence. Additionally, Grammarly offers a variety of features aimed at helping students refine their writing skills, boosting their confidence and motivation to produce error-free writing. Thus, Grammarly can be regarded as an automated online tool that minimizes writing errors while offering detailed corrections and explanations, making it an invaluable resource for students, particularly in the context of academic writing.

Grammarly is available in two versions: a free version and a premium version, each catering to different user needs. The premium version provides enhanced functionality compared to the free version, featuring at least nine advanced tools, including detection of writing errors, ambiguous sentence structures, redundant words, inappropriate tone, overuse of words, intensive language issues, and plagiarism prevention (Oktaviani et al., 2022). However, the free version is more limited; it focuses only on basic aspects such as style, grammar, spelling, and punctuation, and restricts document length to 500 words. In contrast, the premium version allows for comprehensive editing of entire documents without word count restrictions. The premium subscription, which costs \$29.95 per month, offers substantial advantages to users seeking a more thorough review of their writing.

To utilize Grammarly, users must first log in to the platform using their email. After logging in, they can upload the text or document they wish to review. Grammarly then provides two primary scores: an accuracy percentage and the total number of identified errors. These errors are categorized into six areas: contextual spelling, contextual grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, style, and vocabulary enhancement (O'Neil, 2019). It is important to note



that Grammarly requires a stable internet connection to function effectively. Any issues with connectivity may impede the tool's ability to analyze and correct documents accurately. Let me know if further refinements are needed!

Advantages and Disadvantages Grammarly

Grammarly offers several advantages as a grammar-checking tool, making it a valuable resource for users, particularly students. One significant benefit is its ability to identify and correct writing errors swiftly, thereby saving users considerable time. While Grammarly provides a premium version with expanded features, many students prefer to utilize the free version, as it does not require a financial commitment yet offers substantial functionality. Another advantage of Grammarly is the provision of both direct and indirect feedback. Direct feedback is delivered through correction and explanation cards, while indirect feedback is highlighted through underlined errors, enabling users to address mistakes independently. By using Grammarly, students can manually refine their writing without the pressure of receiving or sharing feedback with others, fostering increased confidence in their writing abilities.

Despite its advanced features, Grammarly does have certain limitations that users should consider. One notable drawback is the necessity for users to critically evaluate the suggestions provided by Grammarly. In some cases, the tool may propose corrections that do not align with the writer's intent or the context of the writing, requiring users to exercise caution in deciding whether to accept or ignore feedback. Another limitation is Grammarly's inability to fully assess the coherence and cohesiveness of writing, as it lacks a feature to detect logical relationships between sentences. Additionally, the reliance on automated feedback can lead to reduced motivation and less authentic writing, as it minimizes the role of instructor-led feedback and personal engagement in the revision process. Finally, Grammarly is entirely dependent on a stable internet connection; without connectivity, the tool cannot be utilized.

This nuanced understanding of Grammarly's strengths and limitations highlights its utility as a supportive tool while emphasizing the importance of critical user engagement and complementary instructional guidance.

Writing

Nunan (2003) defines writing as an intellectual endeavor that entails generating ideas and thoughts, organizing them into coherent sentences and paragraphs, and presenting them in a manner that is accessible to a wide audience. This highlights the importance of writers being able to articulate their ideas clearly within structured paragraphs. Moreover, writing serves as a medium for disseminating a researcher's insights and conclusions on specific issues to the public, necessitating a systematic and organized approach. Writing can be understood as the process of translating thoughts, emotions, and ideas into written form with the intent of sharing them with others. It is a critical skill for acquiring and communicating knowledge, making it essential for teaching and learning.

White and Arndt (1991), as cited in Komariyah (2015), characterize writing as a cognitive activity requiring rigorous intellectual effort. This effort involves generating ideas, planning, setting objectives, drafting, monitoring progress, and evaluating outcomes. Their view underscores that writing is a multifaceted process involving numerous stages to effectively



communicate its significance. Similarly, Harmer (2004) identifies four distinct stages in the writing process, which include:

1. **Planning:** This initial phase involves brainstorming ideas about the topic, while considering three key aspects—purpose, audience, and content. Writers determine why they are writing, who their readers are, and what they wish to convey.
2. **Drafting:** In this stage, writers begin to translate their ideas into written form, focusing on expressing their thoughts rather than correcting errors.
3. **Editing:** After drafting, writers review their work to refine its clarity, coherence, and effectiveness. Feedback from peers, whether verbal or written, plays an important role in this stage, as it provides valuable insights for revision and improvement.
4. **Final Version:** Following revisions and peer feedback, writers produce the polished version of their work, ensuring it reflects their intended meaning and meets the expected standards of quality.

METHOD

Research Design

This study employs a qualitative descriptive approach, which is particularly suited for examining human perceptions and experiences in relation to social events. According to Creswell (2014), a qualitative approach often involves case study research, where the researcher explores a particular case in depth, either over time or within a specific context.

The goal of this study is to gather detailed data through an in-depth exploration of participants' perspectives. The research focuses on English education students in their fourth semester, utilizing a questionnaire as the primary data collection instrument to capture the nuances of participants' views.

Participants

The study was conducted with 25 students from the Department of English at North Sumatra Islamic University. These 25 participants were selected to represent the sample population, providing insights into the perceptions of students regarding the use of Grammarly as a tool for grammar correction in their writing.

Instrument

Research instruments are essential tools used to collect data, and they must align with the study's objectives and underlying theoretical framework (Purwanto, 2018). In this research, a questionnaire was chosen as the primary instrument for data collection. Given the qualitative nature of the study, the questionnaire was designed to gather detailed responses that would provide an understanding of participants' experiences and perceptions of using Grammarly for grammar correction.

Procedure

This study follows a descriptive qualitative research methodology, which is effective for exploring social phenomena and gaining an in-depth understanding of the subject matter. Creswell (2014) argues that qualitative research is particularly valuable when the focus is on understanding complex social issues. The central aim of this study is to examine how students



perceive the advantages and disadvantages of using Grammarly for grammar checking in their writing. The research process involved distributing questionnaires, collecting data, and analyzing the responses through an inductive approach. Data were analyzed by identifying specific themes, which were then generalized to form broader insights. The final interpretation of the data culminates in a written report, characterized by flexibility and depth (Creswell, 2014).

Data were collected using an online questionnaire administered via Google Forms, and the resulting data were analyzed using triangulation techniques. Triangulation is a widely recognized qualitative research method that involves cross-checking data from multiple sources to enhance the credibility and depth of the findings (Patton, 1999 in Carter et al., 2014). By employing this approach, the study aimed to achieve a comprehensive understanding of students' perceptions of Grammarly as a tool for improving grammar in writing.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

To address the research questions regarding the advantages and disadvantages of using Grammarly, the researchers distributed a questionnaire to gather students' perspectives. The survey, consisting of 20 questions, was designed to explore participants' views on Grammarly's effectiveness in checking grammar in their writing. Of the 20 questions, 10 focused on the perceived advantages of using Grammarly, while the remaining 10 examined the potential disadvantages of the tool.

Table 1
Advantages of Grammarly

No	Statements	SA	A	N	D	SD
1	Check grammar and spelling in Grammarly according to grammar rules	12%	80%	8%		
2	Grammarly provides suggestions for improving writing style, tone, and choice of words to make it more effective and professional	36%	40%	24%		
3	Grammarly provides appropriate word suggestions and alternative vocabulary to improve writing and expand the user's vocabulary	28%	52%	20%		
4	Grammarly helps correctly correct punctuation errors according to the correct writing rules	28%	52%	20%		
5	Grammarly not only identifies errors but also provides explanations and suggestions for	36%	16%	32%	16%	



	improvement and writers can learn from every aspect of the errors provided by Grammarly						
6	Grammarly premium version provides accurate plagiarism features and can help users to ensure the originality of the work being written	32%	48%	20%			
7	Grammarly can correctly identify sentences that are inconsistent in writing, such as in the inconsistent use of tenses or pronouns and help, users make assumptions about coherence throughout the text they write	12%	64%	24%			
8	Grammarly provides scores and suggestions to improve the skills of writers and help writers develop their skills	16%	24%	44%	16%		
9	Grammarly is useful for saving writers time in the editing process	32%	36%	32%			
10	Grammarly is easy to access for all skill levels	28%	32%	32%	8%		

The data presented in the table highlights several advantages of using Grammarly as a tool for writing enhancement and error correction. One of Grammarly's most prominent features is its ability to check grammar and spelling in accordance with established grammatical rules, a capability that is strongly endorsed by 80% of respondents, with an additional 12% agreeing. Beyond basic grammar and spelling checks, Grammarly also offers suggestions for improving writing style, tone, and word choice, which enhances the effectiveness and professionalism of the text. This benefit is acknowledged by 36% of respondents who strongly agree, and 40% who agree.

Another significant advantage is Grammarly's provision of relevant word choices and alternative vocabulary suggestions, helping users expand their lexicon and improve their writing. This feature is recognized by 28% of respondents who strongly agree, and 52% who agree. Additionally, Grammarly assists in correcting punctuation errors based on basic writing conventions, a benefit supported by 28% who strongly agree, and 52% who agree.

Grammarly also provides detailed feedback, detecting errors and offering explanations and suggestions for improvement, which facilitates the learning process for users. This feature is highly valued by 36% of respondents who strongly agree, 16% who agree, and 32% who remain neutral. The premium version of Grammarly includes plagiarism detection, ensuring the



originality of written work, a feature that is acknowledged by 32% of respondents who strongly agree, and 48% who agree.

Moreover, Grammarly helps users maintain consistency in their writing by identifying issues such as incorrect tenses or pronoun usage, with 64% of respondents agreeing and 12% strongly agreeing with this benefit. The tool also provides writing scores and tips aimed at improving users' writing skills, a feature that 44% of respondents agree with, 16% strongly agree, and 24% remain neutral about.

In terms of usability, Grammarly is valued for its time-saving capabilities during the editing process, a feature recognized by 32% of respondents who strongly agree, and 36% who agree. Additionally, 28% of respondents find Grammarly to be user-friendly for individuals at all skill levels, with 32% agreeing, 32% remaining indifferent, and only 8% expressing disagreement.

Overall, the data indicates that Grammarly offers numerous benefits, including grammar and spelling checks, writing improvement suggestions, vocabulary enhancement, punctuation error correction, learning opportunities, plagiarism detection, consistency maintenance, writing skill development, time-saving advantages, and accessibility for users across various skill levels.

Table 2
Disadvantages of Grammarly

No	Statements	SA	A	N	D	SD
1	Grammarly can hinder the development or understanding of grammar and writing skills of any individual which can lead to dependence on automatic suggestions rather than understanding grammar rules independently in the context of writing activities	20%	15%	44%	20%	
2	The grammar suggestions provided by grammarly are based on standard grammar rules and may not align with the type of writing being written	4%	44%	20%	32%	
3	Grammarly relies heavily on an internet connection to function and can hinder access or use in internet-restricted environments	44%	40%	16%		
4	The cost of premium features from Grammarly	24%	12%	48%	12%	4%

5	doesn't suit students' pockets Grammarly free version has limited features compared to the premium version	44%	40%	16%		
6	By always relying on Grammarly, you might miss learning opportunities independently	24%	36%	28%	8%	4%
7	Grammarly can propose changes that are not in accordance with the author's personal writing style	12%	36%	44%	8%	
8	Grammarly doesn't fully understand the context or the author's intent	8%	32%	56%	4%	
9	Grammarly is difficult to use because there is no Indonesian language option available	8%	28%	56%	8%	
10	Grammarly is too focused on correcting grammar	16%	48%	28%	8%	

Table 2 reveals several disadvantages associated with the use of Grammarly, as indicated by the data. A key concern is the potential for Grammarly to hinder the development of grammar and writing skills. Approximately 20% of respondents strongly agree, and 15% agree, that reliance on automated suggestions may reduce the opportunity for students to develop an independent understanding of grammatical rules. This suggests a risk of students becoming overly dependent on the tool rather than engaging in active learning.

Another issue highlighted is that Grammarly's grammatical suggestions may not always align with the intended writing style. This mismatch is noted by 44% of respondents who agree with the statement, while 32% disagree, suggesting that the tool may not be universally applicable across all types of writing. Furthermore, Grammarly's reliance on an internet connection is another drawback, as it may limit access in areas with poor connectivity. This concern is shared by 44% of respondents who agree, with 40% acknowledging the issue, and 16% remaining undecided.

The cost of Grammarly's premium version is also a significant disadvantage, with 48% of respondents agreeing that the price is prohibitive for students, while only 12% disagree. Additionally, the limitations of the free version are noted, as it provides fewer features compared to the premium version. This limitation is recognized by 44% of respondents who agree, while 40% disagree, and 16% are uncertain.

A further concern is that excessive reliance on Grammarly may restrict opportunities for independent learning. Thirty-six percent of respondents agree, with 24% strongly agreeing, that frequent use of the tool might hinder the development of autonomous writing skills. Another



concern is that Grammarly's suggestions may not always align with an author's personal writing style, as noted by 44% of respondents, with only 8% strongly disagreeing.

Additionally, Grammarly's inability to understand context or the author's intent is another limitation, strongly agreed upon by 56% of respondents, while only 4% strongly disagree. The lack of support for the Indonesian language is also a notable disadvantage, as 56% of respondents strongly agree with this limitation, while only 8% strongly disagree. Finally, 48% of respondents feel that Grammarly places excessive emphasis on grammatical correction, with 16% remaining indifferent.

Overall, the data suggests several potential disadvantages of Grammarly, including its impact on grammar and writing skill development, misalignment with certain writing styles, reliance on an internet connection, high costs for premium features, limitations in the free version, restricted opportunities for independent learning, mismatched suggestions, lack of contextual understanding, lack of support for Indonesian, and an overemphasis on grammar correction.

Despite these drawbacks, interview participants acknowledged several advantages of using Grammarly. Many found it useful for checking their work and learning about grammar. Particularly for students needing help with grammar correction, Grammarly was considered a valuable tool. However, some participants expressed dissatisfaction with the number of grammatical mistakes detected, especially in the free version, which does not allow users to make all necessary corrections. Nonetheless, Grammarly was appreciated for not consuming excessive data, even though some participants noted that, compared to other grammar-checking software, it required more data.

Most participants regarded Grammarly's correction suggestions as reliable and accurate. However, a few expressed concerns that certain corrections could result in sentences losing coherence or conveying unintended meanings, which left them uncertain about the suggested changes. Interestingly, some participants reported learning grammar unintentionally while using Grammarly. They explained that when they encountered grammatical corrections, they often reviewed the surrounding sentences to ensure the meaning and context of their writing remained intact. This suggests that Grammarly's corrections might stimulate deeper engagement with grammar rules and contribute to improving students' grammatical knowledge.

Discussion

The findings of this study address the research questions and reveal that the majority of respondents perceive Grammarly as having several disadvantages that hinder its effectiveness in assisting with writing correction. Specifically, 89.5% of the 25 students surveyed expressed concerns about Grammarly's limitations. The total percentage of responses highlighting these disadvantages amounts to approximately 508%, with 455% of the participants either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the drawbacks associated with Grammarly. Despite these concerns, Grammarly is still recognized for its potential benefits, though these advantages were reported by a smaller proportion of respondents. A total of around 42.9% of the participants, corresponding to approximately 966% of the advantage-related statements, agreed or strongly agreed with the positive aspects of using Grammarly.

These findings align with previous research conducted by Fitriana and Nurazni (2022) in their study titled "Exploring English Department Students' Perceptions on Using Grammarly



to Check the Grammar in their Writing." Their research revealed that Grammarly significantly improved the grammar-checking process for students, with most participants acknowledging the tool's usefulness. However, they also noted several disadvantages, including unsatisfactory corrections, changes in sentence meaning due to Grammarly's suggestions, and limited functionality in the free version.

Additionally, a study by Ananda, Nisa, and Safura (2021), titled "Students' Perception Toward the Use of Grammarly in Checking Grammar in Assignments," found that many students had positive perceptions of using Grammarly to check grammar in their written work. Nevertheless, the study also identified challenges, such as unreliable internet connections and difficulties in understanding the feedback provided by Grammarly. The researchers recommended that English as a Foreign Language (EFL) students utilize Grammarly for grammar checking, particularly for written assignments.

Both studies support the notion that Grammarly can be a valuable tool for students, particularly in enhancing the quality of their written work. However, they also emphasize the tool's limitations, such as potential alterations to sentence meaning, restricted features in the free version, and technical issues like poor internet connectivity and difficulties interpreting Grammarly's feedback. Despite these challenges, the use of Grammarly is generally recommended for EFL students, particularly for tasks involving written assignments.

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, Grammarly offers several advantages that contribute to its widespread use as a tool for improving writing. These benefits include its ability to check grammar and spelling, suggest improvements to writing style, offer alternative vocabulary options, assist with punctuation, provide explanations and recommendations for enhancement, and ensure originality through plagiarism detection (in the premium version). Additionally, Grammarly helps identify inconsistencies in writing, offers performance scores and suggestions for skill improvement, saves time during the editing process, and provides easy access for users. Despite its limitations, Grammarly remains a valuable tool for enhancing writing skills and promoting better grammatical accuracy.

Grammarly is particularly beneficial for users seeking to verify grammar and spelling in accordance with established grammatical rules. It also provides suggestions to refine writing style, tone, and word choice, and offers alternative vocabulary options to improve expression. Moreover, Grammarly addresses punctuation errors, based on fundamental writing principles, and provides feedback to help authors develop their writing skills. According to survey data, 32% of respondents strongly agree and 36% agree that Grammarly is effective in saving time during the editing process. Additionally, 28% of respondents find it easy to use, regardless of their skill level.

However, some disadvantages are associated with Grammarly. These include the potential risk of hindering the development and understanding of grammar and writing skills, reliance on an internet connection for functionality, and the cost of premium services. Furthermore, the limited features of Grammarly's free version compared to the premium edition may restrict opportunities for independent learning. Another concern is that the recommended changes may not always align with an author's unique writing style, as reported by 44% of respondents. Additionally, Grammarly's inability to comprehend the context or intent of the



author is highlighted by 56% of participants who strongly agree with this limitation, while only 4% strongly disagree.

Grammarly's lack of support for the Indonesian language presents challenges for some users, with 56% of respondents agreeing that this is a significant limitation. Furthermore, 48% of participants believe that Grammarly is overly focused on grammatical correction, potentially neglecting other aspects of writing. Despite these drawbacks, Grammarly is considered effective by many participants, particularly because it does not consume a significant amount of data. Most respondents trust Grammarly's correction suggestions, finding them both convincing and accurate. However, some participants expressed concerns that certain corrections could cause a sentence to lose coherence or convey a different meaning, leading to confusion regarding the proposed changes.

Interestingly, several participants acknowledged that they unintentionally learned grammar while using Grammarly. They reported reviewing the sentences before and after the corrections to ensure that the meaning and context of their writing were preserved. This suggests that Grammarly's feedback encourages students to engage more deeply with grammatical rules, thus enhancing their understanding of the language.

According to the study, 89.5% of the 25 students surveyed perceive Grammarly as having disadvantages that limit its effectiveness in checking writing. Approximately 508% of responses identified these disadvantages, with 455% of participants either agreeing or strongly agreeing with these concerns. Despite these limitations, Grammarly still offers certain advantages, with 42.9% of the participants agreeing or disagreeing with its benefits. In total, 415% of the 508% of respondents either agreed or disagreed with the claims regarding Grammarly's advantages.

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