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Enhancing Students' English Tenses Mastery by Using Liveworksheets (A Classroom Action Research at the Class X-1 of SMA N 9 Semarang in the Academic Year of 2023/2024)

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ABSTRAK

Pendidikan saat ini menghadapi berbagai tantangan unik, terutama dalam mengembangkan kemampuan berbahasa siswa, terutama dalam Bahasa Inggris, yang memiliki peran penting sebagai bahasa global. Salah satu aspek penting dari kemampuan berbahasa Inggris adalah pemahaman tata bahasa yang kuat, yang mempengaruhi kemampuan seseorang dalam menyampaikan gagasan secara koheren dan akurat. Di Indonesia, penguasaan tata bahasa dalam penguasaan bahasa Inggris masih menjadi masalah, terutama dalam penggunaan tense (present dan past). Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan penguasaan tata bahasa siswa, khususnya dalam penggunaan tense present dan past, dengan menggunakan platform pembelajaran daring Liveworksheets. Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh pengamatan bahwa siswa kelas X-1 di SMA N 9 Semarang sering mengalami kesulitan dalam menggunakan tenses dengan tepat dalam kalimat mereka. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjawab pertanyaan utama, yaitu mengenai efektif tidaknya penggunaan platform Liveworksheets efektif dalam meningkatkan penguasaan tata bahasa siswa, khususnya dalam penggunaan tense (present tense dan past tense). Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian tindakan kelas dan dilakukan selama tahun akademik 2023/2024. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan adanya peningkatan signifikan dalam kemampuan siswa untuk menggunakan tense present dan past setelah menerapkan media Liveworksheets. Selain itu, siswa merespons positif terhadap penggunaan Liveworksheets sebagai alat pembelajaran yang interaktif dan menarik.

Kata kunci: Liveworksheets, Tata Bahasa Kalimat Bahasa Inggris.

ABSTRACT

Current education is facing various unique challenges, especially in developing students' language skills, particularly in English, which plays a vital role as a global language. One crucial aspect of English language proficiency is a strong grasp of grammar, which influences one's ability to convey ideas coherently and accurately. In Indonesia, mastering grammar in the English language remains an issue, particularly in the use of tenses (present and past). This research aims to improve students' grammar proficiency, specifically in the use of present and past tenses, by using the online learning platform Liveworksheets. The study is motivated by the observation that students in grade X-1 at SMA N 9 Semarang often struggle to use tenses accurately in their sentences. Therefore, the research aims to address the main question regarding the effectiveness of using the Liveworksheets platform in enhancing students' grammar proficiency, especially in the use of tenses (present and past tense). This research employs the classroom action research method and was conducted during the academic year 2023/2024. The results of the study indicate a significant improvement in students' ability to use present and past tenses after implementing the Liveworksheets media. Additionally, students responded positively to the use of Liveworksheets as an interactive and engaging learning tool.

Keywords: Liveworksheets, English Tenses Mastery.

1. INTRODUCTION

The role of English as a global language holds immense significance. This importance stems from the fact that English serves as a means for people across the world to engage in various spheres, including communication and education. In the realm of communication, English facilitates interactions between individuals different linguistic backgrounds. enabling the exchange of information and ideas. In the domain of education, English as a medium for acquiring knowledge from international sources. Recognizing the significant role of English, the Indonesian government has mandated English courses as a compulsory subject in junior and senior high schools, with the aim of enhancing English proficiency among Indonesian students (Kurniati et al., 2021). Among the crucial elements of English language proficiency, a firm grasp of grammar stands as a foundational pillar, directly influencing one's ability articulate ideas coherently and convey meanings accurately (Syahara, 2012). In fact, the mastery of English grammar Indonesian students remains among suboptimal, as indicated in prior studies (Handayani, 2021).

Besides, drawing from the writer's personal experience during an internship program as a teacher trainee at SMAN 9 Semarang, it was observed that an approximate number of students found difficulties in learning English grammar. According to the outcomes of the pre-test conducted among students in class X-1, it became evident that the students were grappling with challenges when it came to recognizing and applying tense rules within a text, especially present and past tenses. This challenge was mirrored in their overall performance, with an average class score of 44. It is important to note that, in line with Kurikulum Merdeka (Indonesia's School-based Curriculum), the passing grade for English in class X is set at 70.

Given the students' limited comprehension of English grammar during their lessons, there is a compelling need to address this issue. Consequently, the author has boarded on research aimed at enhancing students' mastery of English grammar through the utilization Liveworksheets. This classroom action research is set to be conducted within class X-1 of SMA N 9 Semarang during the academic year 2023/2024. This research aims to find out if using Liveworksheets, an online tool, can help students get better at using present and past tenses in English grammar. The reason for doing this research is that students often struggle to use the right tenses when making sentences. This makes it hard for them to communicate well and improve their English skills. The reason for choosing this English tense for this research is because students often encounter this tense when studying the material in class X. Another reason is Tenses especially Simple Past and Present are listed in the class X syllabus in learning objectives 10.1 and 10.4 in Merdeka Curriculum. Using technology like Liveworksheets might be a good way to help students understand tenses better because it's interactive and interesting. Agudelo-Angus & Elena Niola-Sanmartin, (2022) stated that grammar is often regarded as the foundation of language,

and as people continually seek to enhance their language abilities, learning English has become increasingly vital in our lives. This research zeroes in on the acquisition of primarily grammar skills. because educators frequently encounter challenges in cultivating these skills among students. The difficulty arises from a lack of strategies to engage students effectively, potentially resulting in diminished attention and waning interest in the subject (Avatov, 2021).

In the pursuit of improving English proficiency, the significance of learning and practicing English grammar cannot be overstated. To aid students in their quest for better grammar skills, educators have an excess of resources at their disposal. However, it is imperative for teachers to exercise caution, as not all online resources are designed with a primary focus on enhancing grammar.

According to the study done by Okuyama 2020), as per the insights of Leech, Cruickshank, and Ivanic (2001), tense encompasses two verb forms, namely the

present tense and past tense, serving not only to distinguish between present and past but also to convey distinctions of real and unreal meanings. In contrast, aspect, in their words, "conveys our perspective on an action or state concerning the passage of time" (p. 54). Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik (1985) categorized the present into three distinct meanings: denoting a state leading up to the present and describing a habit or recurring event during period preceding the present. Additionally, Biber, Conrad, and Leech (2002) expounded that simple past tense typically refers to events or states in the past, with the capacity to denote a state that persists over a duration of time. The fundamental divergence in meaning between these two lies in the present to signify a situation that endures up to the recent time, while the past tense conveys an event occurring at a specific point in the past.

According to previous research conducted by (Huynh et al., 2023) Liveworksheets(https://www.liveworkshe ets.com/) is an online educational platform accessible through web browsers and mobile devices. It enables teachers to convert conventional printable worksheets, typically in .pdf or .jpg formats, into interactive online worksheets with selffeatures. referred correction "interactive worksheets." These interactive worksheets can be completed by students online, and they have the capability to submit their responses directly to their teachers. Liveworksheets offers a wide range of tasks, making it engaging for students. Moreover, it aids teachers in saving time on task creation and facilitates formative assessment. **Formative** assessment, often referred to as assessment for learning, seeks to offer feedback to students while aiding educators in adapting their instructional approaches (Kılıçkaya, additional benefit 2017). An Liveworksheets is its eco-friendliness as it reduces paper usage. Furthermore, interactive worksheets on Liveworksheets support students in practicing various including listening, language skills, reading, writing, and even speaking, while also covering language areas such as

grammar and vocabulary. Liveworksheets proves particularly advantageous during the learning activities as it serves as an effective communication channel between teachers and students. It enhances interaction between students and teachers, especially in the context of e-learning.

In addition, (Huvnh et al., 2023: Wafa & Zainuddin, 2020) stated that Liveworksheets is a free website that valuable support for educators and learners in various aspects of education. For teachers, this educational platform offers the convenience of quick and effortless task creation, a wealth of task resources available online, immediate formative assessment capabilities, and efficient class management tools such as electronic workbooks and grade books. Liveworksheets proves to be a time-saving tool for teachers, enabling them to monitor student participation and progress effectively while identifying areas where students may need additional support. Consequently, teachers can adapt their lesson plans to enhance students' foreign language acquisition experiences.

students, Liveworksheets serves as an online practice platform that encourages self-reflection during and after lessons. Students can receive instant feedback and assessments, allowing them to recognize and rectify their mistakes promptly. Liveworksheets encompasses a diverse collection of customizable interactive worksheets. featuring numerous tasks that span various skills, not limited to language but also extending to other subject areas.

Another previous study conducted Agudelo-Angus & Elena bv Niola-Sanmartin (2022) showed that application of Liveworksheets to enhance grammar instruction in English class targeting senior high school students. It acknowledged technology as a valuable pedagogical instrument capable of generating enthusiasm among students for English grammar learning. The study underlined the constructive learning atmosphere raised by technological resources and underscored the interactive character of Liveworksheets, which contributed

rendering online English Grammar lessons more captivating and efficient (Kopniak et al., 2018).

Hidayah & Asari (2022) examined the use of Liveworksheet as a platform to students' listening enhance particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The research involved 52 students in grade 2 at Ban KaengSriphum Junior High School in Loei, Thailand. methods. **Ouantitative** including questionnaires and tests, were employed to assess the impact of Liveworksheet on listening skill improvement. The findings indicated that Liveworksheet significantly contributed to students' listening skill development, and students expressed a strong preference for this interactive platform.

Besides, the class action research, conducted at SMPN 1 Papar Kediri By (Hariana Wati et al., 2023) aimed to maximize vocabulary mastery in 7th-grade students using Liveworksheet. The study integrated technology-based media into English instruction, specifically utilizing drag-drop game features. The researchers employed tests and interviews to evaluate students' vocabulary mastery and their opinions about the application. majority of students reported a positive experience, with a significant improvement in their grades. This research emphasizes the effectiveness of technology-enhanced learning in vocabulary acquisition.

The study about Using Liveworksheets to Improve Grammar in Online Classes by Agudelo-Angus & Elena Niola-Sanmartin (2022) explored the use of Liveworksheets to improve grammar in online classes for senior high school students. It recognized technology as a pedagogical tool that can enhance students' interest in learning English grammar. The research emphasized the positive learning environment created by technological tools and highlighted the interactive nature of Liveworksheets, making online English Grammar classes more engaging effective.

The novelty of this research compared to the previous studies is this study focused

on the use of Liveworksheets to improve grammar mastery, especially in the use of present and past tense English grammar, while the previous research focused on vocabulary mastery and listening skill. There was similar research Liveworksheets used to understand grammar, however, this previous research was dedicated to being conducted in online class rather than offline class and discussed grammar in general instead of focusing on the present and past tense.

2. METHOD

This study applied Classroom Action Research as the research design. Based on the study conducted by (Wafa & Zainuddin, 2020), which was cited from Kemmis and Carr as cited by Kasbolah (2001:9), Classroom Action Research is a form of conducted reflective research practitioners within a social context, with aim of improving their understanding their work, and the context in which their work is carried out. This Classroom Action Research is undertaken with the goal of enhancing the teaching and learning process.

This research was conducted among students in the class X-I SMAN 9 Semarang. The total number of research subjects was 36 students. This research was conducted in this class because a majority of the students had difficulties in mastering the Simple Present and Past tense.

This Classroom Action Research was carried out through two cycles based on the identification of issues by the teacher, plan, action, observation, and reflection. A sequence of activities from action planning to reflection is referred to as one research cycle. If, within a cycle, issues hindering the achievement of Classroom Action Research objectives are identified, the researcher must identify, analyze, and formulate these issues. Subsequently, further research can be conducted in the following cycle. If, during the reflection phase in a specific cycle, no obstacles are found, and the objectives of the Classroom Action Research have been achieved, then the research can be concluded.

In addition, Wafa & Zainuddin, (2020) also stated that the stages in one cycle of Classroom Action Research or Penelitian Tindakan Kelas (PTK), as explained by Aqib (2006) that was cited from Lewin, include: (1) planning; (2) action or implementation; (3) observation; and (4) reflection.



Gambar 1. Siklus PTK Model Kurt Lewin

The Four Stages in Classroom Action Research (Lewin as cited by Aqib, 2006:21)

- 1. Planning in research is a structured sequence of actions used to empirically test the accuracy of the hypotheses being examined.
- 2. Action or implementation in research involves the practical application of the established plan. In this context, all activities carried out represent the elaboration of the research plan.
- 3. Observation in research involves the activities of observing, recording, and collecting data about the process of a study. In the context of classroom action research, observation involves gathering data on changes in learning performance.
- 4. Reflection entails activities that include analysis, synthesis, interpretation, and explanation of all the information obtained from the implementation of the action.

Furthermore, to measure the improvement in students' learning outcomes, formative assessments are provided at the end of each cycle, with the success indicator for classroom actions

being when 85% of students pass the minimum competency standard (KKM) set by the school. The school's established KKM is 70 out of a maximum score of 100.

The research instrument used in this study are questionnaire for student feedback on Liveworksheets, pre-test and post-test.

The questionnaire is designed to gather feedback from students about their experience using Liveworksheets for grammar instruction. It includes a combination of closed-ended questions. Closed-ended questions use Likert scale responses to measure satisfaction, engagement, and perceived effectiveness.

Apart from the questionnaire, to find out students' success, it is also necessary to score from the tests that are given regularly. That can also be a reference to determine the increase in student understanding results. Creativity and exciting media are things that can show students' grammar understanding. Therefore, selecting this Liveworksheets is an alternative for teachers and students in learning. In addition, the teacher provides pre-test and post-test to students with the aim of knowing the ability of students' grammar understanding through this platform.

Data analysis for the closed-ended questionnaire used descriptive statistics to analyze the result. The descriptive statistics data analysis technique was employed to summarize and present the findings of closed-ended questionnaire data by explaining the connection between variables and measures such as frequency, percentage, and distribution of responses to each item(Kaur et al., 2018).

On the other hand. according to (Syahara, 2012), in classroom action research, the pre-test and post-test results are analyzed to provide the mean of data result. The formulas are stated as follows:

The mean of the pre-test and post-test:

Gambar 2. Mean of the test formula

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. Pre-test, post-test 1&2

Kriteria	Pre cycle		Cycle I		Cycle II	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Achieved	4	11,1%	30	83,3%	34	94,4%
Not achieved	32	88,9%	6	16,7%	2	5,6%
Total	36	100%	36	100%	36	100%
Max score	85		100		100	
Min score	15		55		70	
Average	44	4	82		87	

From the table above, it can be observed that there is an improvement in students' learning outcomes in both cycle I and cycle II. In cycle I, there is a significant increase in learning outcomes, as indicated by the number of students who passed the minimum competency standard (KKM), which is 30 students, with a percentage of 83,3%. In the cycle 2, there is a significant increase in learning outcomes, and the percentage of students who achieved passing grade is 94,4%. This number meets the previously set target in the planning section, which was 85% of students passing grade. The implementation Liveworksheets is the key to the successful achievement of learning outcomes in class X-1 in mastering the usage of present and past tense in English class.

Table 2. Questionnaire result

Descriptive Statistics								
	N	Min	Max	Mean	Std. Deviation			
VAR1	36	2.00	4.00	3.1111	.57459			
VAR2	36	1.00	4.00	2.9167	.73193			
VAR3	36	2.00	4.00	3.1111	.52251			
VAR4	36	2.00	4.00	3.1111	.46462			
VAR5	36	2.00	4.00	3.1389	.59295			
VAR6	36	2.00	4.00	3.0278	.44633			
VAR7	36	2.00	4.00	2.9722	.44633			
VAR8	36	2.00	4.00	2.8889	.46462			
VAR9	36	2.00	4.00	2.9722	.50631			
VAR10	36	2.00	4.00	2.9722	.50631			
VAR11	36	2.00	4.00	3.0556	.47476			
VAR12	36	2.00	4.00	2.9444	.53154			
VAR13	36	2.00	4.00	2.9444	.53154			
VAR14	36	2.00	4.00	2.8333	.50709			
VAR15	36	1.00	4.00	2.8611	.54263			
Valid N (listwise)	36							

Based on students' perspectives, online-based platform called Liveworksheet is a platform that has practical ease of access via smartphones or computers and is enjoyable to use as a medium for self-interactive assessment without self-correcting student answers. Another convenience that this platform has is that teachers or students do not need to download and without having to print out the exercises, so they are easy to use. According Cakrawati, to (2017),

perspective is a view of a person's point of view that is different in every vision. Recognition of students' perceptions of the Liveworksheet platform in learning was studied in a total of 36 participants. Students understand the tests that have been made and then respond to the questionnaire. Liveworksheet also provides various conveniences to access platform such as multiple-choice answers, short paragraphs. essavs. listening exercises, inserting youtube links, and many other features provided to develop creativity in attracting interest and student learning in the use of grammar, especially tenses. Therefore, the competency studied is how students perceive the use of Liveworksheets to facilitate their grammar mastery. After that, based on the results of the questionnaire test results distributed to students, the data is processed and proven by the statistical analysis of normality tests using SPSS. The mean is 2.9-3.1 means that students had a positive perspective using Liveworksheets to understand grammar mastery, particularly in present and past tense use.

The results of this study provide valuable insights into the use of the Liveworksheets platform in improving students' abilities to use tenses, particularly present and past tenses in English grammar. This discussion will elaborate on several key aspects that have emerged from the research findings, including the improvement in tense usage skill and students' perception on Liveworksheets.

1. Improvement in Tense Usage Skills

The research results indicate that the use of the Liveworksheets platform in English language learning has a positive impact on students' understanding of tense usage. Significant improvements in the percentage of students achieving the minimum competency standards (KKM) were observed during Cycle I and Cycle II. In Cycle I, 83.3% of students successfully achieved KKM, while in Cycle II, this percentage increased to 94.4%. These results exceeded the predetermined target of an 85% pass rate. In this context, the use of Liveworksheets has proven to be

effective in enhancing students' ability to use tenses.

The implication of this improvement is that online learning platforms like Liveworksheets can be effective tools in facilitating the teaching of English grammar. In particular, the platform provides interactive and diverse exercises that allow students to apply tenses in various contexts. Therefore, the platform can be an effective tool in teaching English grammar, especially in relation to tenses.

2.Students' Perspective on Liveworksheets

The positive perspective that students regarding the use of the hold Liveworksheets platform is a significant finding within the scope of this research. The results of the questionnaire survey revealed that the majority of students have a positive view of this platform. They perceive it as a practical, enjoyable, and user-friendly tool. Consequently, it appears that the use of this platform has created a positive learning experience for students.

The implication of students' positive perspectives is that students' motivation to learn English grammar can be enhanced through the use of the Liveworksheets platform. Students who feel comfortable and enjoy using this platform are more likely to actively participate in their learning. Therefore, teachers can capitalize on students' positive views to design more engaging and effective learning activities.

4. CONCLUSION

From the results of the research that has been conducted, it can be summarized that there has been an improvement in students' ability to use present and past tenses, both in cycle I and cycle II, through the implementation of Liveworksheets media at X-1 SMA N 9 Semarang. In the first cycle, the use of Liveworksheets media has yielded positive results in addressing of students' limited the issue understanding of the use of simple present and past tenses. This is evident from the fact that 83.3% of students successfully achieved the minimum competency standard (KKM). In the second cycle, there was an increase in students' ability to use

present and past tenses, from 83.3% to 94.4%. Besides, based on the result of the questionnaire survey, students had a positive perspective on the use of Liveworksheets to improve their ability in the use of present and past tenses.

Despite the valuable insights this research has provided into the use of Liveworksheets in English grammar education, there are several limitations that need to be acknowledged. Firstly, this research was conducted in a single school and one class, which may limit the direct applicability of the results to a broader context. Future research can involve larger and more diverse samples to generalize these findings.

Secondly, factors outside the use of the platform, such as environmental factors and student motivation, may also influence learning outcomes. Subsequent research should consider these factors in the analysis.

Based on the results of this research, several recommendations can be made:

- Teachers can continue to utilize the Liveworksheets platform for teaching English grammar to improve students' understanding of tenses. Teacher training in using this platform should also be enhanced.
- Parents can support their children's English language learning by supervising and motivating them to use Liveworksheets outside of school hours.
- 3. Further studies with larger and more diverse samples can provide deeper insights into the effectiveness of Liveworksheets in education.
- 4. Teachers and educational institutions should periodically evaluate the implementation of technology in teaching and adjust teaching approaches to meet the needs of students.
- 5. Future research can explore the long-term impact of technology-based learning on students' grammar skills.

In conclusion, the results of this research indicate that the use of the Liveworksheets platform is effective in improving students' understanding of tense usage, particularly in the context of English grammar.

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