

**OPTIMIZING DIGITAL LEARNING MEDIA IN ENGLISH
CLASS WITHIN INDEPENDENT CURRICULUM
IMPLEMENTATION**

By
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**ANTASARI STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
BANJARMASIN
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**OPTIMIZING DIGITAL LEARNING MEDIA IN ENGLISH
CLASS WITHIN INDEPENDENT CURRICULUM
IMPLEMENTATION**

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Sarjana Pendidikan

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STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I, the undersigned, **Susi Susanti**, declared that this undergraduate thesis is my original work, gathered and utilized specially to fulfil the purposes and objectives of this study, and has not been previously submitted to any other university for any degree or other purposes. I also declare that the publications cited in this work have been properly acknowledged. If someday, it is proven otherwise, I understand that my degree will be revoked.

Banjarmasin, 25 April 2025

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ABSTRACT

Susi Susanti, 2025. Optimizing Digital Learning in English Class within Independent Curriculum Implementation. Thesis. English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Antasari State Islamic University. Advisor: Hidayah Nor, M.Pd.

Keywords: Digital Learning Media; English Class; Independent Curriculum; Implementation; Challenges

The rapid development of digital technology and the shift in curriculum policy after the COVID-19 pandemic have led to significant changes in the learning process in Indonesia. The Indonesian government's push to modernize education through the Independent Curriculum, emphasizing student-centered learning and the integration of technology. In response the research aims to describe how digital learning media are implemented in English classes and identify the challenges faced by teachers in the process. Using a case study approach, the research was conducted at MAN Tanah Bumbu and SMP Negeri 6 Banjarmasin. Data were collected through classroom observations, interviews with English teachers, and documentation. The findings indicate that teachers utilized various digital learning media including Wordwall, Quizizz, YouTube, PowerPoint, and AI tools such as ChatGPT and Gemini. These tools were used to support interactive learning, assessment, and student engagement. However, the study also found several challenges, such as limited internet access, unequal distribution of digital devices among students, insufficient training for teachers, and inadequate classroom facilities. The conclusion highlights that while digital learning media have the potential to enhance English instruction in the Independent Curriculum, their effectiveness is constrained by technical, infrastructural, and pedagogical limitations. This research contributes insights into the practical realities of digital learning integration and provides recommendations for improving digital infrastructure and teacher readiness.

ABSTRAK

Susi Susanti, 2025. *Optimizing Digital Learning in English Class within Independent Curriculum Implementation.* Skripsi. Jurusan Tadris Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan, UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. Dosen Pembimbing: Hidayah Nor, M.Pd.

Kata Kunci: Media Pembelajaran Digital; Kelas Bahasa Inggris; Kurikulum Mandiri; Implementasi; Tantangan

Pesatnya perkembangan teknologi digital dan pergeseran kebijakan kurikulum setelah pandemi COVID-19 telah menyebabkan perubahan yang signifikan dalam proses pembelajaran di Indonesia. Dorongan pemerintah Indonesia untuk memodernisasi pendidikan melalui Kurikulum Mandiri, menekankan pembelajaran yang berpusat pada siswa dan integrasi teknologi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan bagaimana media pembelajaran digital diimplementasikan di kelas-kelas bahasa Inggris dan mengidentifikasi tantangan yang dihadapi oleh para guru dalam proses tersebut. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan studi kasus, penelitian ini dilakukan di MAN Tanah Bumbu dan SMP Negeri 6 Banjarmasin. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi kelas, wawancara dengan guru bahasa Inggris, dan dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa guru menggunakan berbagai media pembelajaran digital termasuk Wordwall, Quizizz, YouTube, PowerPoint, dan perangkat AI seperti ChatGPT dan Gemini. Alat-alat ini digunakan untuk mendukung pembelajaran interaktif, penilaian, dan keterlibatan siswa. Namun, penelitian ini juga menemukan beberapa tantangan, seperti akses internet yang terbatas, distribusi perangkat digital yang tidak merata di antara para siswa, pelatihan yang tidak memadai untuk guru, dan fasilitas kelas yang tidak memadai. Kesimpulannya menyoroti bahwa meskipun media pembelajaran digital memiliki potensi untuk meningkatkan pengajaran bahasa Inggris dalam Kurikulum Mandiri, efektivitasnya dibatasi oleh keterbatasan teknis, infrastruktur, dan pedagogis. Penelitian ini memberikan wawasan tentang realitas praktis integrasi pembelajaran digital dan memberikan rekomendasi untuk meningkatkan infrastruktur digital dan kesiapan guru.

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