

**A CASE STUDY ON FRESH GRADUATE ENGLISH
TEACHERS' FIRST-YEAR TEACHING EXPERIENCE :
INSIGHTS FROM NEW EDUCATORS**

**By
WINDHA LUSIANA**



**ANTASARI STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
BANJARMASIN
2025 AD/1447 AH**

**A CASE STUDY ON FRESH GRADUATE ENGLISH
TEACHERS' FIRST-YEAR TEACHING EXPERIENCE :
INSIGHTS FROM NEW EDUCATORS**

Undergraduate Thesis

Presented to Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan

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**ANTASARI STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF TARBIYAH AND TEACHER TRAINING
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2025 AD/1447 AH**

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Banjarmasin, December 24, 2025

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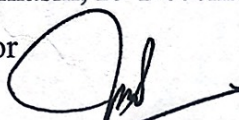
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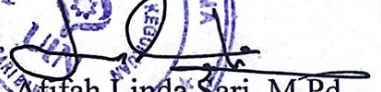
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ABSTRACT

Windha Lusiana. 200101030214. *A Case Study on Fresh Graduate English Teachers' First-Year Teaching Experience: Insights from New Educators.* Thesis. English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Antasari State Islamic University. Advisor: Prof. Dr. Hj. Nida Mufidah, M.Pd., 2025.

Keywords: Novice Teachers; Reflection; Adaptation; Interaction; Professional

This study investigates the first-year teaching experiences of two fresh graduate English teachers in Indonesia. It aims to identify the challenges they faced, examine how they adapted to the curriculum, students, and school environment, and describe the most surprising or enjoyable experiences during their initial year. A qualitative case study design was employed, with in-depth interviews as the main data source. Thematic analysis was conducted to interpret the data. Findings reveal that both teachers experienced reality shock, including difficulties in managing student behavior, handling workloads, and adjusting to school routines. Despite these challenges, they actively developed their professional identities through reflection, adaptation, and interactions with students and colleagues. Positive experiences, such as student appreciation and lesson success, enhanced their motivation and resilience. Recommendations include providing structured mentorship programs, organizing practical workshops and training, encouraging reflective practice, and fostering supportive school environments to support novice teachers during their first year. These insights offer guidance for schools and teacher education programs to improve support for early-career teachers.

ABSTRAK

Windha Lusiana. 200101030214. *A Case Study on Fresh Graduate English Teachers' First-Year Teaching Experience: Insights from New Educators.* Skripsi. Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan, Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari. Dosen Pembimbing: Prof. Dr. Hj. Nida Mufidah, M.Pd., 2025.

Kata kunci: Guru Pemula; Refleksi; Adaptasi; Interaksi; Professional

Penelitian ini mengkaji pengalaman mengajar tahun pertama dari dua guru bahasa Inggris lulusan baru di Indonesia. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tantangan yang mereka hadapi, meneliti bagaimana mereka menyesuaikan diri dengan kurikulum, siswa, dan lingkungan sekolah, serta menggambarkan pengalaman paling mengejutkan atau menyenangkan selama tahun pertama mereka. Desain penelitian yang digunakan adalah studi kasus kualitatif, dengan wawancara mendalam sebagai sumber data utama. Analisis tematik dilakukan untuk menafsirkan data. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kedua guru mengalami *reality shock*, termasuk kesulitan dalam mengelola perilaku siswa, menangani beban kerja, dan menyesuaikan diri dengan rutinitas sekolah. Meskipun menghadapi tantangan tersebut, mereka secara aktif mengembangkan identitas profesional melalui refleksi, adaptasi, dan interaksi dengan siswa serta rekan kerja. Pengalaman positif, seperti penghargaan dari siswa dan keberhasilan dalam pelajaran, meningkatkan motivasi dan ketahanan mereka. Rekomendasi penelitian mencakup penyediaan program pendampingan terstruktur, penyelenggaraan lokakarya dan pelatihan praktis, dorongan terhadap praktik reflektif, serta pembentukan lingkungan sekolah yang mendukung untuk membantu guru pemula selama tahun pertama. Temuan ini memberikan panduan bagi sekolah dan program pendidikan guru dalam meningkatkan dukungan bagi guru yang baru memulai karier mereka.

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وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى أَشْرَفِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ، سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ

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Finally, the writer hopes that this research will be useful for the next researchers. The writer admits that this research paper is not perfect yet. Therefore, suggestion will be expected to make it better.

Banjarmasin, 4th Rajab, 1447 A.H;
24 December 2025 A.D

Writer

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