

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Writing is an important aspect of higher education, and English language students in particular are required to demonstrate their research, writing, and analysis skills. While traditional methods of teaching and learning have been effective in preparing students for this challenge, the emergence of technology-assisted learning media has significantly altered the landscape of higher education.

Technology-assisted learning (TAL) has become an increasingly prevalent aspect of modern education. It refers to the use of various types of technology, such as computers, mobile devices, and software programs, to support and enhance the learning process. Nowadays, students are frequently referred to as “digital natives” because of their natural knowledge of and comfort with technology. As digital natives, students are skilled in using technology to improve and extend their learning experience (Elnadeef, 2023). The aim of TAL is to make learning more interactive, personalized, and engaging. It provides students with greater control over their learning experience by allowing them to access educational materials, assessments, and feedback on their progress. It also allows for a more flexible and accessible learning environment, as students can learn anytime, anywhere, and at their own pace.

Technology-assisted learning media has changed the way we learn and obtain information, but it has not come without its challenges. For one, technology can often make learning more difficult for some people, such as those who struggle with technology or those with learning disabilities. Additionally, technology can be distracting, and it can be difficult for some people to focus when they have so many options for entertainment available to them. Furthermore, technology can also be expensive and not everyone has access to it, creating barriers for some students and limiting their opportunities for learning. These challenges are not insurmountable, but they do require careful consideration and strategic planning in order to ensure that technology-assisted learning is as effective as it can be for all students. As stated in the Holy Qur'an. Al-Insyirah verse 5-6 which reads:

فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

Based on the verse holy Qur'an Surah Al-Insyirah 5-6 reminds us that every difficulty or challenge we face in life is a test from Allah, and that Allah then provides us with relief and ease as a result of passing that test. When we face hardships, we can be assured that Allah will ease our burdens and reward us for our patience and perseverance. Therefore, when we use QuillBot for our academic writing, we may face challenges in navigating the complexities of the tool, but with perseverance and dedication, we can overcome these challenges and achieve greater ease and success in our writing. This verse teaches us the importance of

persevering through difficulties and trusting in Allah's promise of ease and reward.

QuillBot, on the other hand, provides additional features such as paraphrasing, summarizing, and sentence rephrasing, which can help students to improve the style and structure of their writing and ensure a high level of originality. A paraphrasing tool is a program that helps people re-word or simplify text without altering its meaning (Thomas, 2019). It also offers a plagiarism checker, which can be particularly useful for academics who are required to meet strict plagiarism standards.

QuillBot is a popular writing tool that can provide significant benefits for writers, particularly for those working on their thesis. QuillBot is a cutting-edge tool for assisting with the creation of high-quality writing. It is renowned for its exceptional reliability and its capacity to consistently deliver top-quality results (Nadila Nur Azizah, 2023). Some of the specific advantages of using QuillBot for the writing process such as grammar improvement. QuillBot can identify and correct grammar errors, including punctuation, tenses, and word usage. This can be particularly helpful for researchers who are not native speakers of the language or who struggle with writing in English. The second is stylistic improvement. QuillBot can provide suggestions for rephrasing sentences, helping the writer improve the style, clarity, and fluency of their writing. This can be particularly useful for students who are not fluent in English and who may need help with writing in a more formal or academic style. On the other

hand, the benefit of QuillBot is content improvement. QuillBot can suggest improvements to the content of the writing, including identifying areas where the writing may be unclear, repetitive, or overly complex. This can be particularly helpful for researchers who need to ensure that their writing is precise, concise, and easy to understand. QuillBot also used for plagiarism prevention. QuillBot can check for plagiarism in the writing, ensuring that the work is original and does not infringe on the work of others. This can be particularly important for those writing in academic settings where strict plagiarism standards are required.

Overall, writing tool such as QuillBot can be invaluable resources for students working on their thesis, particularly for non-native speakers of the language or for those who struggle with spelling and grammar. These tools can help to identify and correct errors, improve the quality of the writing, and ensure consistency in the thesis work. Additionally, the use of writing tools can help to reduce the workload and the overall time required for the writing process, thereby freeing up more time for research and analysis.

While QuillBot can provide significant benefits for students working on their thesis, there are also some challenges that students may face when using the tool. Here are a few examples such as over-reliance on the tool. QuillBot can be a valuable tool for improving the quality of the writing, but it is important to not rely too heavily on the tool. Students should still strive to develop their own writing skills and not become too reliant on the

tool's suggestions. Over-reliance on the tool can lead to a lack of independence in the writing process, and can also limit the understanding and development of the student's writing abilities. The second is plagiarism risk. QuillBot can be used as a tool to check for plagiarism in the writing, but it is important to remember that QuillBot is not infallible. Students should still be cautious and ensure that they properly cite their sources, even if QuillBot does not detect any issues. Over-reliance on QuillBot to check for plagiarism can lead to a false sense of security and can potentially result in unintentional plagiarism. The last is lack of personal touch. QuillBot can provide suggestions for improving the grammar, style, and content of the writing, but it is important to remember that every writer has their own unique voice and style. Over-reliance on QuillBot can result in writing that lacks a personal touch, and can make the writing less engaging and interesting to read. This is why it is important for students to balance their use of QuillBot with their own writing style and preferences. By taking a balanced approach to using QuillBot and trusting their own writing abilities, students can maintaining the uniqueness of their writing voice.

In this context, the researcher is intrigued to investigate the role of technology-assisted learning media in thesis writing for English students. The focus of the research is to explore the benefits and challenges of using QuillBot, a technology-based writing assistant tool. QuillBot offers the ability to rephrase and refine sentences and paragraphs in English, making

it a potentially valuable tool for students in their thesis writing process. With the title "THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY-ASSISTED LEARNING MEDIA IN ENGLISH STUDENTS' THESIS WRITING: EXPLORING THE BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF QUILLBOT," this study aims to provide a better understanding of the impact of technology on the academic process of English students, particularly in thesis writing.

B. Definition of Keyterms

1. Technology-Assisted Learning Media

Tech-assisted learning media is the technology tools or machine learning or application, or software used for supporting students' learning process, and it can utilize in academic writing by providing automated tools for correcting, editing, and finalizing. (Perkins, 2023)

2. Thesis Writing

A thesis is a long and comprehensive written document that constitutes the principal argument offered in support of a particular view or statement, also known as the thesis statement. In academic writing, a thesis is typically presented as the central argument of a dissertation, research project, or other significant written work. The primary goal of thesis writing is to present evidence and supporting arguments in favor of the central thesis statement, and to persuade the reader of the validity of the research findings and conclusions. (Fithriani, 2022)

3. QuillBot

Quillbot is an AI-powered online application that can help students evaluate their writing such as paraphrasing, grammar checking, translation, plagiarism checking, summarizing, and citation generator all done automatically based on an online system. (Amanda, 2023)

C. Research Question

1. How do the students use QuillBot in thesis writing?
2. What are the perceived benefits and challenges of using QuillBot in thesis writing?

D. Objective of Study

1. To explore how the students use QuillBot in thesis writing.
2. To identify the perceived benefits and challenges of using QuillBot in thesis writing.

E. Research Significance

1. For the Students

The role of technology-assisted learning media like QuillBot in English students' thesis writing is a significant issue that has been gaining attention in contemporary academic settings. On the one hand, technology-assisted learning media can offer numerous benefits for students, such as improving their writing skills and effectiveness in writing a thesis. On the other hand, students may face a number of challenges in utilizing such tools effectively. Examining the benefits

and challenges of using QuillBot in English students' thesis writing can provide valuable insights for both students and lecturers. For students, this research can help them appreciate how technology-assisted learning media can support their writing process and enhance their writing skills.

2. For the Lecturers

For lecturers, this research can provide insights into the potential benefits and challenges of using technology-assisted learning media in teaching, as well as implications for their supportive role in students' writing development. This research can thus advance our understanding of the role of technology-assisted learning media in students' writing development and inform the design of effective educational interventions.