

ABSTRACT

THE IMPACT OF DUOLINGO APPLICATION ON STUDENTS' ENGLISH WRITING SKILLS AT THE TENTH GRADE OF SMK N 2 BANDAR LAMPUNG

By

HAFIZAH ALMAHDA

This study aimed to investigate the effect of using the Duolingo application on students' writing skills. Writing is one of the important skills in learning English; however, many students still faced difficulties in writing, such as limited vocabulary mastery, incorrect grammar usage, difficulties in organizing ideas, and low motivation during writing activities. These problems occurred because students were not accustomed to practicing writing regularly, and the teaching and learning process tended to use less engaging methods and limited learning media. Therefore, the use of interactive media such as Duolingo was considered important to support students' learning. This research employed a quasi-experimental design with a pre-test and post-test. The population of this study was the tenth-grade students of SMKN 2 Bandar Lampung in the academic year 2025/2026, and one class consisting of 34 students was selected using purposive sampling based on the teacher's recommendation. The data were collected through writing tests and assessed using a scoring rubric adapted from Heaton (1991). Inter-rater reliability was applied to ensure scoring consistency, and the data were analyzed using a paired sample t-test. The results showed a significant difference in students' writing skills, with the mean score increasing from 58.4 in the pre-test to 66.3 in the post-test. The paired sample t-test revealed that the significance value was $p < .001$, which was lower than the significance level of 0.05 ($p < .05$), indicating that the difference was statistically significant and that the null hypotheses was rejected. These findings indicate that Duolingo was effective in improving students' writing skills, particularly in vocabulary and language use.

Keywords: *Duolingo, Writing Skills, Descriptive Text, Vocabulary, Language Use.*