

Exploring Students' Perceptions of the Padlet Application as a Media to Learn Narrative Text

Ajeng Aprilia Fransiska^{1,*} Hertiki²

Corresponding author. Email: hertiki@unipasby.ac.id

^{1,2}Universitas PGRI Adi Buana Surabaya

ARTICLE

ABSTRACT

Keywords:

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The narrative text is an interesting type of text because it contains a lot of knowledge for writers or readers. Narrative text types are divided into 4. They are fairy tales; folk tales; fables; and legends. Most students like stories that are accompanied by pictures and narrative texts used. This research aims to introduce students to technology-based media as narrative text media. The learning process application supports narrative text to make it more accessible and more attractive to students by using the Padlet Application. The researcher used a qualitative method, and the data source was students in grade 11 IPA 1 at SMAN 1 Wringinanom. Data collection techniques using interviews, observation, and documents. Data analysis techniques using thematic analysis. This research indicates that students prefer to write narrative texts using the Padlet Application rather than the conventional method. The Padlet Application can make time more efficient, easy, interesting, and fun. This is demonstrated through interviews, observations, and documents conducted by the researcher.

INTRODUCTION

In learning English, students must have four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Listening and speaking are verbal skills. While reading and writing are written skills. According to Taufikurrahman (2018), as cited in Firnanda et al. (2021), the most important goal of teaching English in high schools is to strengthen students' ability to communicate orally and in writing.

Writing as a productive skill is an expression of language to express ideas in words, letters, and symbols to readers. Writing skills are essential in the global community. Therefore, the role of teaching writing also needs to be increased in the current technological era (Dollah et al., 2021). One of the significant learning patterns in increasing students' interest in learning English is through narrative texts and application-based technology that supports the process of learning narrative texts to make it more interesting and efficient for students by using the Padlet Application (Firnanda et al., 2021).

Padlet (www.padlet.com), formerly Wall Wisher, is free web-based application teachers and students use to create online bulletin boards (Sangeetha as cited in Rashid et al., 2019). Padlet work like Sticky Notes. Padlet is online media where students can exchange ideas and collaborate on ideas by posting paragraphs, comments, short essays, recordings, photos, videos, and many more that can be shared by other students and teachers in the class (Lestari, 2017). The Padlet Application can be accessed via mobile phones, laptops, computers, and others with an internet connection. Learning the

Padlet Application takes little time because Padlet is an easy-to-learn application. In addition, the display in the Padlet Application is also attractive.

Other applications that can be used in the writing learning process are Wattpad and StoryJumper. However, there are some disadvantages to both applications. The disadvantage of the StoryJumper Application is that there is a watermark and can only use a tiny text because it will cause the image to be covered. In addition, books that have been made cannot be downloaded, and if the users want to download them, they must pay. The following Application is Wattpad. In the Wattpad application, most of the stories in English are mature. So there needs to be controlled by the teacher. This research chose the Padlet Application as a media for writing narrative text. Padlet was deemed suitable to be applied as a media because Padlet is a simple and attractive application.

Sehuddin et al., (2021) revealed that Narrative is a type of writing in which an event occurs. Narrative text tells about fairy tales, folk tales, fable, and legends that aim to provide information and knowledge and entertain readers through aesthetic experiences through stories. The narrative text is suitable to be used in students' writing skills because the narrative text contains interesting stories. Therefore, narrative text can upgrade students' writing skills and also increase students' knowledge (Firnanda et al., 2021).

In another research, Sukma Taufikurohman (2018) revealed that Padlet could contribute to students' mastery of writing descriptive text. In addition, Fadhilawati et al. (2020) showed that the Padlet Application in teaching text writing could improve students' handwriting procedural text achievement. From the research above, it is still rare to find Padlet applications in English writing Narrative text. Therefore, this research explores students' perceptions of the Padlet Application as a media for a narrative text.

Writing Skill

There are two sub-topics in writing Skills, the first is about the definition of writing, and the second is about types of writing.

a. Definition of writing

Writing is finding ideas, how to arrange, and determining what message the author wants to convey (Sukma Taufikurohman, 2018). Aneros (2020) says that writing is a productive activity that produces thoughts, ideas, and feelings through writing. In addition, writing is one of the essential skills in successful education. In learning English, writing skills are fundamental skills that learners must understand.

The primary purpose of writing English is to make students understand English texts and be able to communicate orally and in writing. Wardani et al. (2014), as cited in Sukma Taufikurohman (2018), stated that writing is a skill that students consider difficult because writing is an activity that requires a long process. Starting from finding ideas, writing, and the final result. Writing also requires factors such as grammatical functions, the use of punctuation marks, vocabulary uses, the use of capital letters, and also the spelling that uses as a paragraph.

b. Types of writing

In general, writing has four types. The first is Descriptive, the second is Narrative, the third is Persuasive, and the fourth is Expository.

1) Descriptive

Descriptive is the text used to describe a person, thing, or place. Descriptive writing tells how something looks, sounds, tastes, or smells. Including pictures of words can make it easier for the readers to imagine an object, place, or something in mind. In the descriptive text, the writer describes people, things, sights, or natural phenomena that can make the readers feel and imagine (Alwasilah, as cited in Sukma Taufikurohman 2018). When a writer describes someone or something, they must tell the reader with words to make the writing feel real. The descriptive text aims to amuse, explain experiences, show emotions, and persuade readers.

2) Narrative

A narrative is a type of writing in which an event occurs. Narrative text focus on pre-writing activities, organization (words and phrases chronologically), grammar and mechanics (simple present, past tense, adverb of frequency, and comma rules), and sentence structure (compound sentences with and, but, so). Or; rules for coordinating conjunctions), and finally, the writing process (Sehuddin et al., 2021).

In general, the narrative text consists of three generic structures; they are (1) orientation (characters & characterizations, setting of time & setting of place), (2) complications (conflict), (3) resolution (resolution of complications), and if any (4) re-orientation (moral value). The way to create a beautiful and complete narrative story is to combine all the generic structures.

The narrative text discusses fairy tales, folk tales, fables, and legends. In narrative text, writers typically use pictures to make it easier to convey stories and also make it easier for students to recognize the intended characters. Putra (2021) reports that the Narrative differs from the description and more than just description.

3) Persuasive

Johnson & Kim (2010), as cited in Alotaibi (2020), argue that persuasive writing is a crucial cognitive skill that underlies concept modification, problem-solving, and other high-level reasoning skills. Persuasive writing refers to critical thinking that requires students to evaluate and analyze information. There is a close relationship between critical thinking skills and persuasive writing skills.

To identify persuasive sentence structures, students should follow these steps: (1) identify their opinion and point of view; (2) provide evidence to support their opinion; (3) provide clear reasons to support their opinion; (4) identify other people's opinions on this issue; (5) Give some reasons that others might use to support their point of view; (6) write conclusions about summarizing students' opinions (Alotaibi, 2020).

4) Expository

An Expository essay explains and describes a topic regarding information sequentially in detail and clearly. Expository text is usually in the form of paragraphs that explain an element attached to an object that aims to increase the reader's insight. The expository text provides information about a specific matter or explains a truth that is accompanied by evidence or facts to the reader. This is like presenting expository essays and procedural texts in Indonesian. (Sari, 2021).

In this type of writing, the text is written in a specific order so the reader can better understand it. The following are the features included in the exposition, (1) explaining an informative subject, (2) there is some information and facts that support the description of the object, and (3) contains an element of seduction. Here are some examples of writing about exposition. They are posters, textbooks, news articles, cookbooks, research papers, etc. (Sari, 2021).

The Padlet Application

Padlet (www.padlet.com), formerly known as Wall Wisher, is free web-based application teachers and students use to create online bulletin boards. Padlet work like Sticky Notes. It can also be interpreted that Padlet can be used as notes that last a long time (Fisher, as cited in Rashid et al., 2019). It is like a piece of paper but on the Web. Padlet is an online media where students can exchange ideas and collaborate on ideas by posting paragraphs, comments, short essays, recordings, photos, videos, and many more that can be shared by other students and teachers in the class (Lestari, 2017). This shows that Padlet can help students have a better writing experience. Padlet can also be used to optimize learning in the classroom.

Padlet is a web application suitable for students' activities such as discussions, classroom brainstorming, and project work. In addition, using Padlet as a digital web tool allows students to share ideas between assignments and other activities in class and at home. The Padlet Application provides an interactive learning experience that encourages students to actively participate in writing in English. With an open concept, each student can provide their input and opinion on other students' work in the Padlet Application (Susanto et al., 2021). Several studies have shown that the using of the Padlet

Application has a positive impact on students' ability to learn writing skills. Rohmatika et al. (2020), as cited in Susanto et al. (2021), stated that learning to write is more fun when using the Padlet Application, improving students' writing skills. Padlet can be accessed from any device like computers, mobile phones, or laptops as long as they are connected to the internet. The content uploaded on the Padlet can be accessed by anyone with the shared link (Rashid et al., 2019). Compared to other web applications, Padlet is not rigorous as it is a sophisticated online learning platform suitable for students and teachers. (Ali, Malek, Abidin, & Razali as cited in Jong & Kim Hua, 2021). Padlet can also replace traditional assessments, typically using pencil and paper as interactive assessment tools in the classroom.

Teachers typically use Padlet to create teaching materials and distribute them to their students simply, creatively, and excitingly. Padlet, in this case, is often referred to as electronic bulletin boards or digital walls. Padlet allows teachers to publish various teaching materials such as text, images, documents, videos, etc. The content in the Padlet can also be shared by including it on a blog, linking to it, or posting content on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Septina (2015), as cited in Lestari (2017), explains that today's society prefers everything about gadgets and technology. There are several benefits to using this Application: (1) For teachers: makes it easier for teachers to evaluate, examine, review, and assess, also students quickly and form interactions with students not only in class; (2) For students: make it easy to do assignments anywhere, practical, simple, and paperless, and also motivating them to do assignments because they can see their friends' submissions. Works created can be shared via links, PDFs, images, etc.

The Advantages of the Padlet Application in English Writing Narrative Text

Technology in teaching is being integrated into increasing students' engagement and motivation. By using an interesting application, it is expected to increase students' activity, students' interest, and student's ability to write in English, especially in narrative text. Therefore, it is necessary to innovate to achieve this. The Padlet Application is an interesting application that is considered appropriate to attract students' interests and talents in English writing narrative text (Licorish et al., 2018).

Here are some of the advantages stated by (Affendi et al., 2020): (1) Padlet makes students more creative in writing. Students can add pictures, videos, links, etc., to support their writing; (2) Padlet helps students in learning new vocabulary; (3) Students find many new ideas when using Padlet; (4) Padlet helps students develop their ideas for better writing; (5) Padlet makes students gain a lot of knowledge in writing; (6) Padlet makes students write more easily; (7) Students can get a lot of helpful information from Padlet; (8) Padlet makes students more interested in writing than just using paper.

Licorish et al. (2018) state that was using Padlet as an interesting application in the classroom can minimize existing disturbances, so the learning process in the school becomes better, more interesting, and more creative. Another factor is that Padlet dramatically contributes to the student's learning process.

Disadvantages of the Padlet Application in English Writing Narrative Text

Some disadvantages need to be considered in using the Padlet Application as a media for learning English writing narrative text. Students who constantly stare at their cell phones/laptops screen can cause problems such as the sense of sight, addiction to using cell phones/laptops, and even laziness. Ozdamli (2017), as cited in Rony (2021), revealed that digital technology could be at risk of making students addicted if not used in the right way, even though the Padlet Application can attract students' interest in writing.

Students need time to learn the Padlet Application. Students are sometimes still confused about the features of the Padlet Application. Therefore it takes time to learn. In addition, internet problems are also an obstacle for students in using the Padlet Application as a media for writing narrative texts because not all students have a stable internet connection when studying from home, as well as when learning from school, sometimes school wifi is slow due to wifi users use at the same time.

Another disadvantage of the Padlet Application is that it uses a "free version," so the users can only create files in Padlet with a limited. In addition, students with access to links to their friends' work on the Padlet tend to copy their friends' work instead of using it as a reference, and lazy students to do their work will copy their friends' work.

METHOD

This research uses qualitative research methodology with a case study approach. The respondents or participants in this research were students of 11 IPA 1 in the first semester who are in the 2022/2023 academic year. The student is from SMAN 1 Wringinanom, Gresik. The number of students in grade 11 IPA 1 is 30 people. There are six groups with five members and one student representative who was interviewed.

This research uses interviews as the primary data. Then supporting data in the form of observations and documents. This research used semi-structured interviews conducted with one person in each group representative. The number groups in class 11 IPA 1, there are six groups. Observations in this research used participatory observations, which were used to find out students' behavior when applying the Padlet Application as a media for writing narrative texts. The documents are in the form of work. The work takes from making narrative text on the Padlet Application. This document is to find out the results of student work on the Padlet Application.

The researcher used thematic analysis as data analysis in this research. The researcher used the triangulation technique to check the validity of the data. Data validation is carried out by conducting a credibility test using technical triangulation. This activity is carried out by reviewing data from the same source with different techniques.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data in this research were taken from interviews as the primary data, then observations and documents as supporting data from 30 students in grade 11 IPA 1 who were divided into six groups with five members each.

Interesting & Fun

Padlet is an interesting and fun application. This Application is attractive in terms of features such as various formatting features, can add wallpapers, and multiple fonts, can add images, can include links, etc. It can also make the appearance of students' work when writing narrative text more attractive. In addition, the Padlet Application is fun for students because they can work together in making works on the Padlet Application. With cooperation between students, good communication will be built between students, and with good communication between students, good work will also be produced. This aligns with Jong & Kim Hua (2021), who said that Padlet applications are interesting, practical, easy to use, and suitable for writing assessments. Also, students were enthusiastic and enjoyed using Padlet for assessment. This also aligns with other research by Fadhilawati et al. (2020), which mentioned that Padlet is an alternative media to create an interesting and creative learning process for students, especially writing.

Efficient

The Padlet Application is efficient. The Padlet Application is an innovation in the field of education. The Padlet Application is very supportive of students writing. Students tend to be lazy to write long texts such as narrative text on paper, especially if there is a typo. So they must prepare to type x and then wait a while for type x to dry. This can save them time. In addition, streaks of pen ink can also make writing less neat. Students also think that writing on paper is monotonous and less attractive. Therefore the Padlet Application can help students save time in writing narrative texts.

The Padlet Application has the advantage of being able to copywrite. With this advantage, students only have to work once to rewrite their narrative text. Using the Padlet Application also makes writing more organized, with no pen marks and no need for type x. The time needed for

students to write narrative text in the Padlet Application is around 30 - 1 hour. Whereas if they use conventional ways, it can take longer. It can even take up to days. Therefore, the Padlet Application can be efficient, especially as a media for writing narrative text. This is in line with Poláková & Klímová (2019), which mentioned that the use of mobile applications has a positive result on students' learning. Students using the Application seem to remember more words than students in the control group. Moreover, using the Application is more comfortable for students than traditional teaching methods. In addition, it contributes to collaborative learning.

Easy-to-use

Padlet is an easy-to-use application. The easy-to-understand feature is very suitable for use by students, so it is very relevant to be applied in writing narrative text. Students like simple features, so they don't get confused using them. These features include model selection, font selection, adding images, background, color selection, etc. These easy-to-use features will make students more interested in creating narrative texts in the Padlet Application. Therefore the Padlet Application can help students become more interested in creating work on the Padlet Application.

In addition, the image enhancement feature can make it easier for readers to understand the characters in the author's story. So with features that are easy to understand, students don't get bored quickly. Apart from that, the Padlet Application is also easy to access and does not consume a lot of Internet data. This aligns with Jong & Kim Hua (2021), which mentioned that a Padlet application is interesting, practical, easy to use, and good enough for writing assessments. The students were also pleased and enthusiastic when the Padlet was used to assess their work.

Suitable For Writing Narrative Text.

In this modern era, there is a need for learning innovations for current students or what is commonly called Generation Z. The Padlet Application is suitable for use as a media for writing narrative text because it makes it easier for students to write stories, especially in narrative texts that are usually long and take time. The copying feature can save students' time and make it easier for students not to rewrite stories. A Padlet application with many features can make it easier for students to arrange their appearance and work as they w. In addition, Padlet is also an efficient, easy, and attractive application for students so which can make students interested in doing work on the Padlet Application. Furthermore, the Padlet Application can also attract readers' interest with pictures on the Padlet display, which make it easier for readers to get an idea, recognize or imagine the characters in the story.

In this modern era, learning innovations are needed for today's students or what is commonly called Generation Z. The Padlet Application is suitable for use as a media for writing narrative text because it makes it easier for students to write stories with a beautiful appearance, especially in a narrative text which is usually lengthy and very consuming the time. The copying feature can save students' time and make it easier for students not to rewrite their narrative text stories. The Padlet Application has many features, making it easier for students to manage the appearance and work they want. Apart from that, Padlet is also an efficient, easy, and attractive application for students, so it can make students interested in creating works on the Padlet Application.

In addition, the Padlet Application can attract readers' interest with pictures on the Padlet display, making it easier for readers to get ideas and recognize or imagine the characters in the story. This aligns with Firnanda et al. (2021) state that Padlet stimulates the student's interest and motivation to learn English. The researcher found that 90% of students achieved a passing score. This exceeds the minimum standards of completeness criteria in the final exam. The use of the Padlet Application can improve narrative writing skills.

Slightly Confused

In addition to the various advantages of the Padlet Application as a media for learning narrative texts, there are also disadvantages to the Padlet Application; some students explained that they needed help

understanding the features of the Application. This is because the learning time is short. Apart from that, applying the Padlet Application to learning is also something new for them. So they are still a little confused and feel still lay.

Many students are disappointed with the free version of the Padlet Application. The Padlet Application has a maximum creation limit of 4. They feel too little for them because they want to create various narrative stories on the Padlet Application. Therefore, they think they need more time to work on Padlet Application. The other thing is the signal that does not support it. Poor signal conditions can also affect student internet connections. Sometimes the sim card they use has no signal when used at school. This is due to the far range of transmitters.

Another thing is the school wifi. Students are provided with free wifi at school, and giving wifi at school is very useful for students to access the internet. However, if the wifi is used together or in large quantities, this can reduce internet speed. While the learning time is only 2 x 40 minutes, it also becomes confusing for students when using the Padlet Application for learning narrative texts. This is in line with Rony (2021), which mentioned that Padlet offers students a fun and interesting learning environment and can also improve the student's motivation, collaboration, and language development and lower the students' learning anxiety. However, there are two aspects to consider when using the Padlet Application: the need for a more stable internet connection and the lack of interaction between students and teachers. Overall, Padlet makes a significant contribution to the learning process.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The research shows five students' perceptions of the Padlet Application as a media for writing narrative texts. The first is the Padlet Application is an interesting and fun application with display features in the form of icons and various background colors to make students who want to write less boring and easy to operate. Next, Padlet is an efficient application. By using Padlet Application, students who previously had to write on paper for a long time now with the Padlet Application, only take about an hour to save study time. Then Padlet is an easy-to-use application. A simple menu display will be apparent to students using the Padlet Application. Also, the Padlet Application is suitable for writing narrative texts. Finally, the Padlet Application needs to be clarified for students because they are still unfamiliar with it and the quota limit on the Padlet Application.

The Padlet Application is an innovation in the field of education. The Padlet Application can be used as a media for writing because the Padlet Application has many interesting features for students or writers. Besides that, the Padlet Application is also easy to understand and does not take up a lot of internet data. But unfortunately, the creation of works on the Padlet Application is limited, and authors can only make a maximum of 4 works. If the quota for creating works is full, the writer cannot do any more work, but if they want to do more work, the writer must delete one of their works so that a new work can be created in the Padlet Application. Therefore, this research suggests that it is necessary to increase the quota for doing work because the high interest of students or writers in the Padlet Application can increase the interest of students/writers in writing on the Padlet Application.

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