

## ABSTRACT

Hilda Rosida, 2021, *The Challenges in English Academic Writing (A Case Study at the Students of the Faculty of Dakwah at the State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten.*

It's not a secret that errors in grammar and punctuation are one of the main reasons why people lose their marks in academic papers. This is a great problem for ESL students who may use wrong words, confuse prepositions and conjunctions, miss auxiliary verb or simply are not familiar with punctuation rules.

Most international students need to write essays and reports for exams and coursework. Yet writing good academic English is one of the most demanding tasks students face. Students often have difficulty writing scientific papers. They do not understand the steps and procedures in making good and correct academic writing.

Students need to understand all of the challenges, especially in writing English academic that are investigated in this research, and find possible solutions to their challenges. The aims of this research are to explore the challenges in English academic writing and to describe students' ways to face the challenges in English academic writing faced by the students majoring in Islamic Guidance and Counselling UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten. This qualitative research investigated the students' challenges in English academic writing. The subject of this study was students from 7th semester of Islamic Guidance and Counselling State Islamic University.

In collecting the data, doing interviews with 5 five students and also online questionnaires were distributed to 10 students from 7th semester that has been selected before. The results of this study highlighted the following: (1) The challenges are mostly faced by the students in English academic writing are the structure, developing idea, and choosing vocabulary related to their own topic. (2) The students' ways to face the challenges in English academic writing are learning from an example of good academic writing, finding and reading many references like a journal, book, and paper, and using the application "Grammarly" to help the students check their grammar aspect. These findings imply that most students have difficulties in structure or written aspects when they write English academic writing papers, and the students' ways that mostly used to solve those challenges is learning from an example of good academic writing.

*Key Words: English Academic Writing, Challenges, Strategies.*