

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

In today's era of Globalization, learning a language means learning to communicate both orally and in writing (listening and speaking) and in writing (reading and writing).<sup>1</sup> English is an important language to master because it is the most widely used language for communication in today's international context. By speaking English, everyone can communicate smoothly, allowing them to form relationships with one another despite their differences in nationalities, both in academia and business. In some countries, including Indonesia, English is spoken as a second or foreign language.<sup>2</sup> Students can learn English anywhere through college education, the internet, English lessons, and social media. To make English a second language, students must understand the basics of learning English and the right learning strategy. In the 21st century, mastering English can improve the academic

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<sup>1</sup> ST Nurrahmatiah, *Improving The Students' Grammar Ability Through EGRA (Exposure, Generalization, Reinforcement, Application) Method of The Second Year Students of SMP Moncoloe Makassar*, vol. 53, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Ramilia Laksmi Utari Umar and Nur Fitriyanti Aspany, "Students' Pronunciation Skill OnThe Ability Of Suprasegmental and Segmental Aspects In English Pronunciation," *NUSRA: Jurnal Penelitian dan Ilmu Pendidikan* 5, no. 1 (February 27, 2024): 314–319, <https://ejournal.nusantaraglobal.ac.id/index.php/nusra/article/view/2196>.

and life skills needed by the outside world at this time.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to learn English to reach the outside world, which has a lot of progress and cannot be separated from the role of English as a communication tool that can lead to this progress.

However, several aspects of skills need to be mastered in learning English, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Mastering language components like grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation is also critical. These abilities are closely related to one another. The importance of mastering grammar is that students can string words according to the rules of the rules in English so that they become meaningful sentences easily understood by others.<sup>4</sup> The importance of mastering grammar is because it can help one understand a language clearly and be an effective communication, it can help someone who has a formal job in their field, such as teachers, politicians, reporters, writers, and translators.<sup>5</sup> It helps in learning another language more easily as many grammatical principles are similar between languages. In addition, according to Frederick (2015), cited in Singodiwongso and Susilawati (2021), grammar plays an essential role in the professional world because this skill helps a person understand oral and

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<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth Murra, "Learning English as a Second Language," *Journal of Educational Sociology* 28, no. 4 (1954): 181.

<sup>4</sup> F S Hapsari, N Frijuniarsi, and I Isroyati, "Pemanfaatan Aplikasi Pembelajaran Berbasis Permainan Untuk Meningkatkan Pemahaman Grammar Bahasa Inggris Mahasiswa," *Jurnal Pembelajaran dan Riset Pendidikan* 3 (2023): 1–7, <http://ojs.unublitar.ac.id/index.php/jprp/article/view/1042>.

<sup>5</sup> R Tanizah and J K Syahrurah, "Application 'Learn English Grammar' and 'Grammar Bahasa Inggris' of EFL Students," *Scripta: English Department Journal* 10, no. 1 (2023): 84–91.

written communication well when interacting with clients and managing official documents.<sup>6</sup>

Furthermore, in the world of education, students need to learn grammar so that they can string words according to the rules of the rules in English to become a unified sentence that is meaningful and easily understood by others.<sup>7</sup> Thus, students can think critically and analytically because learning grammar helps develop critical and analytical thinking skills because students learn to understand the structure and rules of language.

The problem that students often need help with when learning grammar is the lack of understanding of grammar rules because there are many rules in English grammar so students have difficulty understanding grammar rules such as the use of tenses, prepositions, and auxiliary verbs. In addition, limited vocabulary, when students are stringing words according to English rules and grammar but students' vocabulary is limited, as well as differences in grammatical structure, given the structure of English grammar, which is very different from Indonesian grammar, because each language has

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<sup>6</sup> Susilawatitiro Djokosingo, "Peningkatan Penguasaan Grammar Dalam Menulis Kalimat Melalui Teknik Mistake Buster," *KREDO : Jurnal Ilmiah Bahasa dan Sastra* 5, no. 1 (2021): 367–380.

<sup>7</sup> Hapsari, Frijuniarsi, and Isroyati, "Pemanfaatan Aplikasi Pembelajaran Berbasis Permainan Untuk Meningkatkan Pemahaman Grammar Bahasa Inggris Mahasiswa."

its own rules and grammar. So, students need help learning grammar, especially those who learn foreign grammar instead of their first language.<sup>8</sup>

Moreover, the learning approach could be more varied, which causes many students to feel bored and saturated when learning, so students pay less attention to the grammar material explained by the teacher. According to Brown, if there are no standards or rules in writing, communication will be disorganized and chaotic.<sup>9</sup> To improve grammar skills and become a unified whole in meaning and form according to language rules, a continuous process is needed to learn and multiply it into an exercise. Practice is not enough to be done only once; achieving a quality and meaningful sentence requires many times.

According to Harmer, cited in Effendi et al. (2017), there are two approaches to improving grammar: deductive and inductive. The deductive approach involves explaining or introducing grammar formulas to students, which they then apply in constructing phrases or sentences in the studied language. On the other hand, the inductive approach does not start with

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<sup>8</sup> Marice Saragih et al., "Improving The Students' Ability In Grammar Through Duolingo Application At The Tenth Grade Students Sma Nasrani Medan," *Jurnal Widya* 4, no. 1 (2023): 33–42, <https://jurnal.amikwidyaloka.ac.id/index.php/awl>.

<sup>9</sup> Douglas H Brown, *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching*, 4th ed., 1994.

grammar formulas but provides example sentences for students to analyze and learn more.<sup>10</sup>

Learning grammar is combining words to form a good and correct sentence. They are arranged using specific formulas to make the words easier to understand. Words arranged carelessly may lose meaning and be difficult for others to understand.<sup>11</sup> Grammar determines how words are arranged to become meaningful units. This means that grammar is a structure that must be patterned correctly to acquire realistic meaning.<sup>12</sup>

In the 21st century, technology is fundamental, such as using applications to support students' English learning. One of the exciting applications to learning students' English grammar is the Hello English application; this application provides several features for learning English and improving English language skills, including grammar exercises.

Hello English from Culture Alley has been used by 10 million users and is now considered one of the best Google apps in 2016.<sup>13</sup> and provides

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<sup>10</sup> Effendi et al., "A Study on Grammar Teaching at an English Education Department in an EFL Context," *International Journal on Studies in English Language and Literature* 5, no. 1 (2017): 42–46.

<sup>11</sup> Yunevika Mughti, "The Effectiveness Of English Grammar Appication In Students English Grammar Achievement At The First Grader Of Islamic Senior High School Kota Blitar In The Academic Year Of 2018/2019" (IAIN Tulungagung, 2019).

<sup>12</sup> Medika Ayu Agustin, "The Effectiveness of Using Learn English Grammar Application in Teaching Simple Future Tense at The Tenth Grade Studentsof SMKN 1 Jenangan" (IAI Ponorogo, 2023).

<sup>13</sup> Made Utari et al., "Pemanfaatan Aplikasi Hello English Sebagai Media Pembelajaran Pada Kelas Pronunciation," *sintesa prosiding 2020* (2020): 89–92.

475 lessons in 19 phases, in addition to thorough and clear material explanations.<sup>14</sup> This application aims to help students improve their English word structure and grammar. So that learning is more enjoyable and not easily bored. Meanwhile, the application uses the feature (interactive lessons) to introduce grammar concepts in a structured and understandable manner. (grammar exercises), the exercises are designed to improve their grammar comprehension through various activities, such as filling in gaps when constructing sentences or identifying errors. (immediate feedback), the app provides users with immediate feedback on their responses, allowing them to understand their mistakes better and improve their grammar understanding. (quizzes and exams) Quizzes and exams enable users to test their grammar knowledge and track their progress.

Based on observation by the researcher in the eighth grade of MTSN 2 Kota Serang, Some of the obstacles that students often face are a lack of interest or attention to the subject matter that the teacher provides, which affects the grammar in their English lessons. Students feel bored when learning because of the less varied learning approaches and students' lack of understanding of grammar rules. To make students interested in learning English, especially grammar, researcher argue that students need to use exciting media to learn grammar. With the advancement of technology that

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<sup>14</sup> Ahmad Ansarnur, "The Effect of Utilizing Hello English Application on Students' Writing Skill of Descriptive Text at The Tenth Grade of SMA Swasta Raudhatul Jannah" (State Islamic University of North Sumatra, 2021).

is increasingly sophisticated as it is now, Application-based learning media is increasingly becoming an important part of the context of learning, especially grammar in English language learning; one of the popular application-based learning media is Hello English, which provides a variety of features to improve English language skills including grammar. This moment is perfect for teachers to utilize so that student's interest in learning increases and they are more motivated to learn more about English.

This research is important because good and correct grammar skills affect other English language skills, so it becomes an essential foundation in English writing proficiency, and students can string words according to the rules of English to become a unified sentence that is meaningful and easily understood by others. On the other hand, students can think critically and analytically because learning grammar helps develop critical and analytical thinking skills. Students learn to understand the structure and rules of language. Therefore, with the Hello English application, it is hoped that eighth-grade students of MTSN 2 Kota Serang will learn their English grammar, as well as great potential for increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of student grammar learning.

Based on the above, the researcher uses the Hello English application feature as an effective medium for learning grammar and can help solve students' English grammar problems. Given the above, the title of this

research is “The Effectiveness of Using Hello English Application in Students' Learning English Grammar (Quasi-Experimental Research at The Eighth Grade of MTSN 2 Kota Serang).”

## **B. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the above background, the author identifies the following problems as follows:

1. Students' lack of interest in learning English.
2. Students find it difficult to understand the rules of grammatical structure into correct and meaningful sentences.
3. Lack of interesting and diverse learning materials in conventional teaching.

## **C. Limitation of Problem**

The focus of this research is on learning English grammar. The focal point of grammar is Simple Present Tense. The research subjects are eighth-grade students of MTSN 2 Kota Serang.

## **D. Formulation of Problem**

Based on the background of the study above the formulation of problem is:  
How is are the Effectiveness of Using Hello English Application in Students' Learning English Grammar at MTSN 2 Kota Serang?



### **E. The Aims of Study**

The objective of the study is to find out the effectiveness of using Hello English Application in students' learning english grammar of MTSN 2 Kota Serang

### **F. Significance of The Research**

1. For researchers, this research is a learning medium to deepen and improve their grammar in English using the Hello English application. Researchers can especially analyze the effectiveness of using the Hello English application in Learning students' English grammar.
2. For students, it is expected to add insight and be used as a reference, especially MTSN 2 Kota Serang students who participated in this research.
3. For Teachers, it is expected to implement Hello English Application in learning Students' English Grammar.

### **G. The organization of the writing**

The organization of the writing are as follows:

#### **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION**

In the chapter, the sections contains background of the study, identification of problem, limitation of the study, objective of study, significance of the research, and the organization writing.

#### **CHAPTER II: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

In the second chapter, the section contains theoretical studies that will discuss the exposure of theories, relationship between variables and hypotheses related to the research that will be done, namely explaining Grammar, and Hello English Application.

### CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHOD

In the third chapter, the research methods section will explain about the research methodology used based on the main problem point to achieve the desired results and goals. In this chapter, researchers will elaborate on the place and time of research, research methods, data collection instrument, data collection technique, data analysis technique, population, and sample.

### CHAPTER IV: RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In the fourth chapter, the discussion section of research results explains the findings of the research and the results of the analysis of data processing. These include research location, data description, data analysis, discussion, and interpretation.

### CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In the fifth chapter, the results and recommendations this section covers the findings of study based on the analysis of data that was processed and discussed in the preceding section, as well as recommendations for future research.