EXPLORING STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON USING CHATGPT IN DOING ASSIGNMENTS

THESIS

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2025 M / 1446 H

THESIS

Submitted to *Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan*

Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree

Bachelor of Education in English Language Teaching

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Date: 21 / 09 / 2025

It has been defended in *Sidang Munaqasyah*
in front of the board of Examination for the working paper
and has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Bachelor Degree of Education in English Language Teaching
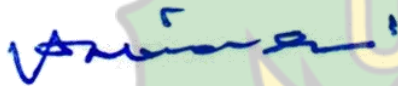
On:

Tuesday,   **29 April 2025**
1 Dzulqaidah 1446 H

In Darussalam, Banda Aceh

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Exploring Students' Perception on Using ChatGPT in Doing Assignments

Adalah benar-benar karya saya, kecuali semua kutipan dan referensi yang disebutkan sumbernya. Apabila terdapat kesalahan dan kekeliruan di dalamnya, maka akan sepenuhnya menjadi tanggung jawab saya. Demikian surat pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya.

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Saya yang membuat surat pernyataan

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABSTRACT

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Major   : Department of English Language Education

Thesis Working Title : Exploring Students' Perception on Using ChatGPT in Doing Assignments

Supervisor   : Prof. Habiburrahim, S.Ag., M.Com., MS., Ph.D

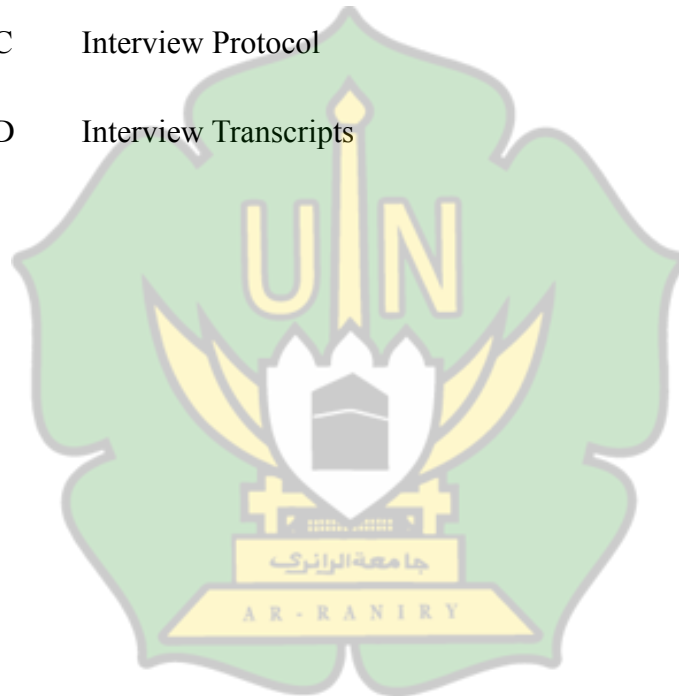Keywords   : Students' Perception; ChatGPT; Assignments

In this digital era, easily accessible digital technology, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), is becoming increasingly popular and widely developed. One of the most widely used AI-based tools especially among university students, is ChatGPT, a Large Language Model (LLM) that is capable to generate text with natural human-like language. This study aims to explore students' perceptions on using ChatGPT in completing academic assignments, including the benefits, risks, and strategies used to maintain academic honesty. Using a qualitative approach and semi-structured interviews with 11 PBI UIN Ar-Raniry class of 2021 students, the findings reveal that ChatGPT helps students to generate ideas, brainstorm, enhance creativity, and improve assignment efficiency. However, students are also aware of potential risks such as dependency, plagiarism, and reduced critical thinking. To maintain academic honesty, they used strategies like paraphrasing, cross-checking, and combining sources. These findings can guide educational institutions in creating ethical and responsible policies for AI use in academic settings.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

In this era of digitalization, digital technology that is easily accessible at any time has been increasingly developed. One of the most widely recognized and widely used is Artificial Intelligence (AI). The emergence of AI technology has also brought many changes in the way we live and the way we work. Apart from helping to simplify various activities in human life, this tool also affects social interactions. One of the most widely utilized AI tools to support learning among students in higher education is ChatGPT, a Large Language Model (LLM) capable of generating text with natural language similar to humans. ChatGPT's ability to provide natural, fast, and informative responses has made it one of the most potential support tools in education.

With the help of ChatGPT, students can access a wider range of information in a more understandable way and make it easier to complete their assignments. This clearly shows that the development of AI technology such as ChatGPT can significantly contribute in modern education. Cotton et al. (2023) mentioned several tasks that can be completed with the help of ChatGPT including language translation, summarizing documents, creating game-based assessments, conducting interactive conversations, and personalizing learning experiences. With its broad capabilities, ChatGPT can assist students in developing their

writing skills, providing suggestions for improvement, and offering instant feedback.

Undeniably, with ChatGPT's ability to tackle various types of problems, many students utilize this technology to help simplify the completion of their academic assignments. The study by Ravšelj et al. (2025) revealed that university students often use ChatGPT for brainstorming, summarizing texts, and finding research articles. However, some students also admitted to use it for professional and creative writing, often relying on the tool to compose entire parts of their assignments, which emphasizes concerns about plagiarism and academic integrity. Additionally, the use of ChatGPT also provides opportunities for students to learn independently and enhances their creativity in completing tasks.

Many recent studies have discussed the benefits and challenges of ChatGPT in education. The students reported their satisfaction with ChatGPT, especially because it provided quick feedback that helped them improve their writing. Although the students experienced a lot of cognitive pressure during the assignment, they felt more confident in their writing ability because of the help and feedback provided by ChatGPT (Woo et al., 2024). Besides, this tool can also help students find new ideas and organize their essays more easily, making the learning experience simpler and less stressful (Xiao & Zhi, 2023).

On the other hand, ChatGPT also raise concerns, especially about academic honesty and its effect on learning. Some research shows that while this technology can help with language learning, many students are also concerned about over-reliance on the use of ChatGPT. They worry that it will reduce their creativity,

critical thinking, problem-solving ability, and overall skill development (Hidayat & Sujarwati, 2024). Furthermore, ethical issues related to plagiarism and originality of student work need further attention. The possibility of students utilizing AI-generated content and submitting it without attribution, claiming it as their own work, is a concern (Nguyen, 2023).

Krecar et al. (2024) stated that in higher education, assessment of student work, such as essays, projects, research papers, or similar assignments that are often done online, plays a significant role. These assessments aim to measure various learning outcomes, including the ability to locate, summarize, and paraphrase relevant literature, analytical skills, creativity, and innovation. In an attempt to achieve educational goals, a major challenge is maintaining academic integrity, especially with the emergence of ChatGPT that have the potential to accomplish most of the assignments.

Based on several previous studies, students' perceptions towards the use of ChatGPT are varied. Some students find it a useful and efficient tool, while others are hesitant due to concerns about the accuracy of the information and the potential negative impact on their learning process. Therefore, it is important to understand students' perception towards using ChatGPT in completing their assignments. By understanding these perceptions, educators and policy makers can design strategies to utilize technology wisely in educational contexts.

Although various previous studies have discussed the benefits and challenges of using ChatGPT in education, research that specifically highlights students' perceptions, particularly in the context of academic assignment completion is still

limited. Moreover, most of the previous studies were conducted in Eastern and Western countries, while studies in Indonesia are still lacking. Therefore, this study aimed to examine how university students perceive the use of ChatGPT in doing assignments, how they balance the benefits and risks, and how they adapt AI-generated content into their academic work. This study can contribute to the lack of literature related to the use of ChatGPT in academic task completion in Indonesia. The results of this study were expected to be a useful reference for evaluating the appropriateness of using ChatGPT in learning contexts, especially in the context of students in higher education settings.

B. Research Questions

1. What are students' perception on using ChatGPT in completing their assignments, including its benefits and risks?

2. How do students handle the use of ChatGPT while ensuring their work remains academically honest?

C. Research Aims

1. To explore students' perception on using ChatGPT in completing their assignments, including its benefits and risks.

2. To identify how students use ChatGPT while maintaining academic honesty.

D. Significance of The Study

1. For students

This research aimed to enhance students' learning experience by providing recommendations to maximize the use of ChatGPT while being mindful of

possible challenges, and providing an idea of how the technology might impact their learning process. By understanding the positive and negative aspects of using ChatGPT in learning, students can make more informed decisions about the extent to which they should engage with AI tools in their academic activities.

2. For Educational Institutions

This study provided valuable insights and knowledge for educational institutions regarding the implementation of AI technologies in their curriculum. Understanding student perceptions and experiences can help institutions develop policies to minimize the risks and provide programs that effectively incorporate technologies such as ChatGPT to enhance the overall learning experience.

3. For Other Researchers

This research extended the existing body of knowledge regarding students' perceptions towards artificial intelligence technologies, particularly ChatGPT, in an educational context. By providing insights into the students' experience, this research will help researchers understand the role of this tool in learning, potentially paving the way for future research on the adoption of AI technologies in educational curriculum.

E. Key Terms

1. Assignment

An assignment is a piece of work given by a teacher to learners as a tool to facilitate the learning process, deepen their understanding of the material

being taught, and develop their skills. These tasks can be in various forms, such as essays, projects, presentations, or exercises, which usually encourage students to think critically and applying the knowledge they have acquired (Biggs & Tang, 2011). In this study, assignments refer to the tasks given by lecturers to the students during their lectures, including exercises, projects, or any writing assignments.

2. ChatGPT

ChatGPT is a large language model that can understand instructions from humans and provide natural, human-like responses. The development of ChatGPT was motivated by the desire to create a sophisticated yet flexible language model that could assist in a variety of tasks including text generation, translation, and data analysis (Ray, 2023). In this research, ChatGPT is discussed as a learning tool used by students to help them with various assignments in the learning process.

3. Perception

Lindawati et al. (2022) stated that perception is how we understand and interpret an object, event or relationship based on information received and messages processed. It gives meaning to our response to a stimulus, and is influenced by various psychological factors such as attention, expectation, motivation and memory. In this study, perception refers to how students understand and give meaning to their experiences in an educational context, especially in using ChatGPT for doing their assignments.