

## **A STUDY ON ENGLISH PRIVATE TUTORING BASED ON STUDENTS'**

### **PERCEPTIONS AT SMP XAVERIUS 1 BANDAR LAMPUNG**

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**Abstract:** The purpose is to obtain facts and experiences that occur to students when using English private tutoring in their learning system which is described in detail using a descriptive method through perceptions from students at SMP Xaverius 1 Bandar Lampung. Private tutoring is needed for students to get more learning in the lack condition of Covid-19 and can give more benefits to improving their skill and their progress in a self-learning system with improve the quality of students. This journal used the qualitative method. To collect the data used questionnaires and interviews. The results of this study indicate that there are several types of perceptions given by students based on what happens when using English private tutoring and are divided into four different categories in the grouping of student perceptions, comparison between school & tutoring, financial aspects, learning model system, and students' academic & quality level. The results showed positive perceptions of students and tutors and also giving benefits for both.

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**Keywords:** English, tutoring, perceptions, academic.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

English is an international language that many people in this universal world must learn. According to Mappiasse and Sihes (2014), English is the language most often used by people around the world. English is a subject that is currently given to students from elementary school to college level. According to Maduwu (2016), English correctly and adequately in Indonesia is still deficient, below eight percent. Learning and mastering English is a necessity.

Maduwu (2016) stated that, English is introduced in Elementary School, English is taught starting from the junior high school level. Based on the ideals, most students consist of pilots, doctors, etc. Learning English in junior high schools is targeted to reach the functional level, communicating orally and writing to solve everyday problems. With good English skills, competitiveness is also good. The 2013 curriculum is essentially an attempt to simplify previously implemented curricula by adding class hours and taking the form of integrative thematic. It aims to hone students' abilities in observing, asking questions, reasoning, and explaining what they have obtained after learning in class.

English lessons at SMP Xaverius are the language that the students of this private school must master, but these English lessons are experiencing obstacles amid the Covid-19 conditions. At SMP Xaverius, students in the superior class must use English when the learning process. In contrast, other courses use a mixture of Indonesian and English in the learning process.

Then, private tutoring is a teaching activity by providing additional education to help students who need extra learning by Collin English Dictionary (2007). According to Ireson (2004), private

tutors have assisted students in participating in education to help supplement of regular school learning.

Private tutoring that has developed in Indonesia has developed some private tutors, consisting of private tutoring through an institution (English First, LBB LIA, World English Pare, Wall Street English, etc.) via online with the application (Quipper, Ruang Guru, English Today, etc.), and through personal privacy. Based on Valerio (2012), private language lessons have both desirable and undesirable dimensions. Private tutors can help students with time and small study groups so that private tutors can provide more effective and optimal learning from teachers at school. The real evidence of the effectiveness of private tutoring is private tutoring can effects many subjects in the Saudi educational curriculum, although particular problems take up the claim of attention, Alotaibi (2014).

However, several previous studies have examined that private tutoring has an influence on students' academics in achieving national exams. Guil. K et al. (2020) small groups can facilitate and provide more performance for students in learning so that it can provide positive things to motivate students. Several research studies focus on the dynamics of private tutoring, the influence on quality, equity, ethics in education, Valerio (2012). Braine & Parnell (2011) stated that tutoring is used to improve academic performance and address issues of student retention, progression, and completion.

Putri (2019) Universitas Tridianti Palembang says students need a forum to learn English through non-formal education. By attending an English course, students are expected to improve English language skills quickly depending on the needs of the work world.

Tutoring is an activity of repeating or studying the material in school to be studied more in-depth. It means tutoring also has the benefit of improving memory, so it makes the learning will be easier. Based on research by Sulthoni (2014) UIN Malang, tutoring provides help from private teachers to students by developing a conducive learning atmosphere and can give ideal learning. Students will feel comfortable with the methods and scope of learning provided by private tutoring.

According to Sulistiyo (2016), UN Semarang, English language courses are non-formal educations that aim to help people improve their competence or communication skills in English. The role of private tutoring has a big impact for many people, one of which is that people have a good quality in local or international people. For the students, they will feel proud of the skills that they have.

There is a positive perception by students through using private tutoring. According to Gurusinghe & Ramayanake (2021), It includes statements under the teacher's instructions, the ability to understand instructions, repetition of learning, the ability to hear voices, and understand the nature of the teacher's language. But Yung & Chiu (2020) also stated that the perception of participants who take English private tutoring is 44% motivated to get a better job, so it is proven that Students need English private tutoring to master English for the world of work.

In this case, the term perception comes from the English "perception". According to Jalaluddin (2011), perception is an experience of objects, events, or relationships that relate information and interpreted the messages. According to Braine & Parnell (2011), students' perception concludes report based on events or relationships built by students and private tutors.

Bray supports it (1999), private tutoring is tutoring of academic subjects in the language and for the financial benefit of the tutor and is added to mainstream schooling or has a detrimental impact on the financial sector and standardize their assessments in schools.

In addition, this research is expected to give a better effect for students who take private tutoring to help in the world of education by getting a higher score and making it easier for students to improve the four basic skills in English.

## **METHOD**

The research design that has been applied in this research is a qualitative research approach with a case study method. Qualitative research fits perfectly because of its elaborative nature, which can be described based on personal experiences. Qualitative research occurs in a natural environment and describes as a deployment model that allows researchers to develop levels of detail from high participation in hands-on experience by Creswell (1994). Creswell (2003) defines a case study as a researcher who examines events, activities, processes in detail in one or more people.

The scope of this research are students in ninth-grade at SMP Xaverius 1 Bandar Lampung. The number of students who use private tutors is 24, including the four classes, 9A, 9B, 9C and 9D with a sample is selected using purposive sampling.

The instruments used to collect the data are questionnaires and interviews. A questionnaire is a series of questions in a printed or written form used to conduct a survey. Roopa & Rani (2012), questionnaire is just a list or a duplicate or published question filled by allowing respondents to express their opinions. According to Lambert & Loiselle (2007), the interview is often used to collect qualitative research data. This is usually a strategy used to gather information from a point of view based on experience and beliefs about an issue of interest. The type of questionnaire is mix questionnaires with closed-ended questionnaire and open-ended questionnaire. The questionnaire is adapted from a research journal by Mondal & Barman (2019). The questionnaire has 20 questions and the interview has 4 questions which are divided into several categories.

The data that has been collected has been analyzed by using thematic analysis. The researcher was collecting descriptive data to solve the research problem. The researcher has been examining the data repeatedly with the aim of finding emerging patterns, themes, sub-themes, etc. Braun & Clarke (2006) stated that thematic analysis is a method for analyzing qualitative data that requires data collection to identify, analyze, and report repeatedly patterns.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Questionnaire Result

From this questionnaire is divided into 4 different categories to find students' perceptions of English private tutoring, comparison between school and tutoring, financial aspects, learning model system, students' academic and quality level.

**Table 1.**

No.	Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
<b>Comparison Between School &amp; Tutoring</b>					
1.	English is really difficult to master in my school.	12,5 %	16,7 %	12,5 %	58,3 %
2.	Junior high school students should use English actively.	29,2 %	62,5 %	0 %	8,3 %
3.	Teacher's teaching English is still lacking in the midst of the Covid-19 condition.	16,7 %	41,7 %	8,3 %	33,3 %
4.	The quality of private tutors is important.	25 %	54,2 %	0 %	20,8 %
5.	Studying with private tutors is more focused than with school teachers.	29,2 %	33,3 %	0 %	37,5 %
6.	Private tutors should be experienced teachers.	50 %	20,8 %	0 %	29,2 %
<b>Financial Aspects</b>					
7.	Private tutoring is expensive.	12,5 %	70,8 %	4,2 %	12,5 %
8.	Paying a private tutor is worth the learning outcomes.	20,8 %	70,8 %	0 %	8,3 %
<b>Learning Model System</b>					
9.	Learning in smaller group is more effective.	16,7 %	66,7 %	4,1 %	12,5 %
10.	Private tutoring is time consuming.	0 %	25 %	8,3 %	66,7 %
<b>Students' Academic &amp; Quality Level</b>					
11.	Private tutoring helps me in learning process.	29,2 %	66,7 %	0 %	4,1 %
12.	Private tutoring provides ideal learning.	12,5 %	75 %	0 %	12,5 %
13.	Private tutoring helps me in managing a good learning strategy.	20,8 %	62,5 %	0 %	16,7 %
14.	Private tutoring can solve the learning problems at school.	12,5 %	79,2 %	0 %	8,3 %
15.	Private tutoring made significant progress on the learning outcomes.	16,7 %	79,2 %	0 %	4,1 %

16.	Learning through private tutoring is more effective.	20,8 %	58,3 %	0 %	20,8 %
17.	Private tutoring increased my learning motivation.	8,3 %	66,7 %	0 %	25 %
18.	Private tutoring can improves self-confidence.	20,8 %	62,5 %	0 %	16,7 %
19.	Private tutoring improves my English skills.	33,3 %	58,3 %	0 %	8,3 %
20.	Private tutoring improves my scores.	33,3 %	58,3 %	0 %	8,3 %

So from the questionnaire data, I find the results in the first category, "Comparison between Schools and Tutoring" concluded that English language skills at the Xaverius do have a high standard of ability compared to other schools and the active use of English in junior high school is important. Although English is not considered problematic by students, tutoring is essential to help them improve their English language skills in all aspects. Also, they have liked English for a long time. Hence, they want to continue developing themselves and get more learning that was considered unexplained or sometimes confusing when studying at school. The help of tutors who have excellent quality skills and experience can provide detailed knowledge and new learning benefits for students. According to Gurusinghe & Ramayanake (2021), that can support the quality of tutors. It includes statements under the teacher's instructions, the ability to understand instructions, repetition of learning, the ability to hear voices, and understand the nature of the teacher's language.

In the "Financial Aspects", it can be concluded that the prices offered by private tutoring or private tutors are indeed expensive. Still, students also state that what they get from learning is comparable to the price given. Any assessment must consider the financial costs and opportunities obtained, Levin & Belfield (2015).

The "Learning Model System" explains statements about the models given during learning. For students with the smaller group model, it can increase the effectiveness of knowledge and can also help focus and concentrate more. You can provide a model with a smaller group by following private tutoring because of Guill. K et al. (2020) stated that small groups can facilitate and provide more performance for students in learning so that it can provide positive things to motivate students. It could positively impact self academic, motivation, and performance anxiety.

In the "Students' Academic and Quality Level", students get comparable benefits to improve their academic quality, starting with increasing English skills, self-confidence, motivation, scores, ideal learning, and experiencing significant progress in learning. An experimental evaluation of the school mentoring program can find effects as simple as the presence of a positive relationship, the presence of impact on presentation, Wood & Mayo Wilson (2012). It turns out that with best practices such as improving tutoring content by standardizing regular school levels, providing stable tutor

relationships, highly effective programs in informal measurement and formative assessment in curriculum, Jacob et al., (2016).

## **2. Interview Result**

From the interview results, it produces data that includes four categories from four student participants and in this interview result describes one of the student's answers as the overall result. The first theme is "Need" with the question "Do you think learning English at school is enough or not? Do you need to take English tutoring? And why? And students' statements are, "I think learning English at school is not enough for me because at school the focus is more on learning on the worksheets that have been double sometimes the explanation from the teacher is also unclear, so that if i am given a question to work on, sometimes i do not understand. So that's why I need to take English tutoring because the lessons are much earlier than the lessons given at school So when I learn new material at school, I already understand more about that material, because it has been discussed before" [STUDENT 1].

The second theme is about "Financial" with the question "Is your English tutoring worth it or not? You get benefits?" And students' statements are, "Yes, tutoring it's really worth it for me, because I get more materials and can improving me to learn English more too. So the price is not a problem as long as what I get can improve myself" [STUDENT 2].

The third theme is "Effectiveness" with the question "In your opinion, which is more effective between tutoring and studying at school?" And students' statements are, "Yes, tutoring is more effective. I can freely study whatever I want, because I still have less skills and I feel more comfortable learning through this tutoring" [STUDENT 4].

The last category is "Benefits" with the question "Can English tutoring improving your English skills? Which of the 4 skills is the more dominant skill in you?" And students' statements are, "Yes, according to what I want with private tutoring I can improve myself and my dominant skills, namely speaking and writing, because I also learn a lot to communicate with my private tutors" [STUDENT 2].

In addition, the interview section is conducting to get more data and understanding of their personal reason with their experience of using English private tutoring. The "Needs" of students to taking private tutoring. Private tutoring helps them understand learning that is less clear and is considered easier. There are programs that include additional learning integrated with learning in the school day can have a greater effect on student achievement, Nickow et al., (2020).

The "Financial", using tutoring requires extra costs, but this financial aspect can provide benefits to students in terms of learning. Then the importance of setting specific goals can provide feedback on those targeted by students, Lyons et al (2019). Not only for students, it can proof of the benefits of academic tutoring is also obtained for tutor, Leung (2019).



The “Effectiveness”, actually both of them can give different effectiveness values. With students having positive relationships with adults and peers can support social development in terms of students' emotional, student engagement with school, so that they can be successful in navigating education, Balfanz & Byrnes, (2018); Bowman-Perrott et al., (2014).

The last theme is about the “Benefits” of their academic aspect and the quality that students get. The three participants felt that their speaking skills had improved. Participants interact more and communicate in English with their tutors. Basically, the average program effect of tutoring on student achievement was greater and it was found that as many as 85% evaluated educational intervention, Kraft (2020).

Participants experienced different academics, skills, and quality changes, several studies have proven that the results of students' academic performance can be seen through national exams., some of this evidence has been reviewed by Bray (2010).

## **CONCLUSION**

English is a worldwide language and English is a foreign language from L2 learners. English is the language used in communication as a second language after the mother language.

From the finding of questionnaire, shows that form four different categories get results that students agree with the 20 statements. The categories include comparison between school & tutoring, financial aspects, learning model system, and students' academic & quality level. From the finding of interviews, participants provided answers and reasons with very good responses and had 4 different themes, need, financial, effectiveness, and benefits.

Based on the whole result, study with private tutoring according to students' perception is stated to be very useful, effective, and worth it. Students give a perception that was in line with the expectations of this research. With private tutoring students can be helped in the learning process, such as getting new lessons, being able to repeat lessons, and being able to develop themselves, especially with a small learning group, achievement of ideal learning, and significant progress. So students' perceptions of learning through English private tutoring can be stated to have a positive impact and can help students in self-development in the learning process and self-quality development.

English private tutoring is an institutional facility that provides teaching services in the additional learning process. English private tutoring with quality, price, learning system models that are right for students and can have good connections with tutors when the additional learning process takes place.

The researcher also hopes that other researchers can discuss this topic more broadly and can redevelop the theory and research results in much more detail.

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