

THE ESSENTIAL ANALYSIS OF FUNDAMENTAL SUBJECTS OF BAHASA INDONESIA AND ENGLISH IN THE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENTS

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Abstract

Although various languages are spoken in our country, Bahasa Indonesia and English are the lingua franca in higher education. Understanding good English and Bahasa Indonesia conventions will benefit those who use both. This study aimed to provide an overview of what is taught in lecture halls and how important Bahasa Indonesia is to all students in every department. This descriptive qualitative research aimed to discuss the critical importance of Bahasa Indonesia and English courses taught in every study program in college faculties, particularly at Indraprasta PGRI University. It was strongly recommended that the college teach Bahasa Indonesia and English ethics. This research aimed to show how important Bahasa Indonesia and English are taught to all students in each department in the lecture hall as well as the learning materials taught in the lecture hall in the development of Bahasa Indonesia and English in the modern era; the use of language varieties that are appropriate to the context; the use of proper grammar and EYD; finding inappropriate sentences in written works; determining topics and summarizing scientific works; and making scientific works according to topics and titles.

Keywords: Analysis, Courses, Bahasa Indonesia, English, University Level

Introduction

Everyone around the world can use language to communicate. Language shows a person's personality and thoughts. Mulyana, (2019) states that manners and ethics produce a beautiful language order. People in Indonesia most often use Bahasa Indonesia and English to communicate. However, English is a global Lingua Franca (Simarmata, 2023).

Living and socializing in a place requires us to understand the language that others speak. Nonetheless, Bahasa Indonesia, essential for establishing good communication with others, is the solution if one does not understand the local language. Bahasa Indonesia brings together all the different types of languages in Indonesia. However, English has become a critical international language in global communication, diplomacy, business, education, and other international contexts. Many people around the world use it as a second or foreign language. Therefore, learners should be taught both Bahasa Indonesia and English from the most basic level, i.e., in Kindergarten (TK), Primary School, Junior High school/ Madrasah Tsanawiyah, Senior High School (SMA)/M Madrasah Aliyah, and University. Bahasa Indonesia is usually taught at the first level in universities as a general introductory course and becomes a course that all students must take (Alviaderi Novianti, 2021).

The Faculty of Engineering, with majors in Information Systems and Informatics Engineering, and the Faculty of Education and Social Sciences, with majors in Digital Business, Economics Education, and Retail Management, among others, have researchers as lecturers

teaching general courses or team courses of Bahasa Indonesia language learning in the first semester.

Although Bahasa Indonesia and English seem simple and easy to pronounce, these two subjects are essential to teach students. However, there are rules and standards that students must follow. Why should we learn the rules of Bahasa Indonesia and English? Because everyone needs proper language standards, no matter when and with whom we speak. For example, if we are talking to young children, using official or scientific language that confuses them would be unpleasant. In addition, when talking to older parents, most can barely speak appropriately in Bahasa Indonesia and English. This is because they only use Persian every day. They also rarely leave the house, let alone out of the city. It is different when you talk to officials, educationists, and others. The official scientific language is a critical learning (Tekad & Pebriana, 2022).

According to Marina Lidya, (2023), four rules apply in Bahasa Indonesia and English. The first is spelling rules, which regulate using italics, capital letters, lowercase letters, punctuation marks such as commas, periods, exclamations, etc., and acronyms. The second is the rules of morphology, which address how words are formed, such as addition, subtraction, or affixation and repetition of words.

Bahasa Indonesia plays an essential role in effective communication within the country. Understanding and using Bahasa Indonesia helps students communicate with peers, academic staff, and the surrounding community. Whereas English plays a role in the global context, the ability to communicate in English is essential. As the dominant international language, English enables students to participate in international forums, communicate with researchers from different countries, and access global information sources. Thus, learning Bahasa Indonesia and English in higher education provides a strong foundation for academic success, career skills development, and active participation in a global context (Aryanti, 2019).

The importance of learning a language in any course of study can be seen from multiple perspectives involving academic success, professional skill development, and cultural understanding. By understanding this importance, students from each study program can develop language skills relevant to their academic and professional needs, contribute to knowledge development, and expand their career horizons (Farida Fitriani, 2023).

This research aimed to show how critical it is that Bahasa Indonesia and English are taught to all students in every department in the university and that the learning materials are taught in the lecture halls. It also shows how vital these rules are for written and spoken language use.

METHODS

This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach (Sugiyono, 2015). This approach aims to discuss how vital Bahasa Indonesia language courses are taught in every college faculty department. On this occasion, Indraprasta PGRI University became the subject of research and accurate description. This journal will provide information about the importance of teaching general Bahasa Indonesia and English courses in each study program at Indraprasta PGRI University as a team learning course that students must follow.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The courses in Bahasa Indonesia and English at the university level encompass discussions on developing Bahasa Indonesia and English languages in the modern era. This includes utilizing language varieties according to context, adhering to proper spelling and grammar rules, identifying inaccuracies in written media, employing logical reasoning within topics, crafting topic-

appropriate paragraphs, determining topics, and summarizing scholarly works. As time progresses, the diversity of languages used by humans also expands. Vocabulary used by individuals in the past may significantly differ from that used by contemporary individuals. In this course, Bahasa Indonesia and English languages are presented meticulously to enhance the nationalistic spirit of students in using both languages, fostering a deeper appreciation for Bahasa Indonesia and English as the primary languages of the Republic of Indonesia. Bahasa Indonesia and English serve as unifying languages among the various regional languages within the country. Chan & Rahman, (2019) assert that post-independence, Bahasa Indonesia and English languages have gained increasing recognition and attention to their development.

The rapid advancement of technology contributes to the government's efforts to promote and enhance the quality of Bahasa Indonesia and English languages through beneficial programs for educators. As responsible citizens of Indonesia, it is imperative to use Bahasa Indonesia and English correctly and follow language norms. The norms and rules of language can be acquired through the educational process. Hence, every Bahasa Indonesia citizen must acquire knowledge for at least nine years, especially for university students who undertake courses. Understanding and mastering the development of Bahasa Indonesia and English languages according to EYD (spelling) and grammar rules is crucial for university students (Aziz et al., 2019).

The subsequent discussion revolves around the usage of language varieties according to context. Differentiating between formal and informal language is emphasized, considering the contexts of schools, universities, and offices, where formal language is typically employed. Indriani, (2017) categorizes formal language into frozen language (used for formal events such as speeches and ceremonies), official language (utilized for official occasions like speeches, spiritual lectures, official language in customs, office correspondence, and official state lessons books), business language (used in the school or business environment, falling between informal and formal), casual language (relaxed and informal language used in everyday conversations with family and friends), and intimate language (informal language used with close acquaintances) (Mulyono & Susilawati, 2020).

The third discussion focuses on the proper use of EYD and grammar rules. EYD refers to how sounds (words, sentences, etc.) are portrayed in writing through letters and punctuation. Five aspects are crucial in EYD and grammar rules: (a) the use of letters, (b) the use of capital and italic letters, (c) the correct use of capitalization, (d) the proper use of direct quotation marks, and (e) the use of italics for titles, scientific names, and direct quotations.

Analyzing incorrect sentences in written media is another critical aspect of the course, requiring students to analyze discourses and identify sentences that do not conform to EYD and grammar rules. Assignments are given to students to find sentences that deviate from EYD and grammar rules in magazines, newspapers, or official textbooks (Baharsah & Puspitaningsih, 2021).

Furthermore, the course addresses the application of reasoning within topics. Students must analyze discourses and identify sentences that do not conform to EYD and grammar rules. The course also delves into understanding inductive and deductive reasoning. Deductive reasoning involves conclusions from general to specific, while inductive reasoning involves making temporary conclusions (Ansoriyah et al., 2023; Reznani, 2021).

Crafting paragraphs according to the topic is another essential aspect of the course. Students learn the rules of Bahasa Indonesia and English languages in arranging words into sentences, constructing simple sentences into compound or complex sentences, and forming cohesive paragraphs based on language norms (Fadly, 2019).

The final task in this course involves summarizing scholarly works and writing academic papers. Students are taught to summarize the scholarly works of an individual within the last ten years and attempt to create academic papers in their respective fields.

The significance of learning Bahasa Indonesia and English at the university level is highly diverse and encompasses several vital aspects. Therefore, teaching these two languages must be examined from various perspectives to support students' academic achievements.

In terms of Effective Communication, the importance of mastering Bahasa Indonesia lies in effective communication within the country. A solid understanding and proficient use of Bahasa Indonesia assist students in communicating with peers, academic staff, and the surrounding community. On the other hand, the assessment of English is situated within a global context, where communicating effectively in English is crucial. As a dominant international language, English enables students to participate in international forums, communicate with researchers from various countries, and access global sources of information (Amin & Kadir, 2018).

In Academic and Research Skills, Bahasa Indonesia proficiency is necessary for students to read, write, and actively participate in academic discussions. This proficiency supports academic achievements and the development of critical thinking. Conversely, English proficiency is vital as many sources of literature, scholarly journals, and research information are available in English. The ability to read and comprehend scientific literature in English significantly supports research activities and academic development.

In the context of Global Career Preparation, proficiency in Bahasa Indonesia is essential for local work environments, enabling students to interact with local colleagues and clients. Conversely, English proficiency is a valuable asset in the global career context. Many multinational companies require employees who can communicate effectively in English, opening up job opportunities at the international level.

In the aspect of Intercultural Skills Development, the use of Bahasa Indonesia aids in understanding local culture and the daily life of Bahasa Indonesia society. Meanwhile, learning English also facilitates understanding and appreciation of global cultural diversity, as English serves to communicate across different cultures (Ansoriyah & Irawan, 2022; Sianipar et al., 2022).

Studying language as a general course offers several advantages and significant relevance for students across various academic programs. Here are some analyses related to studying language as a general course: (1) Interdisciplinary Communication: Language serves as the primary tool for communication, and proficient communication skills are crucial across various disciplines. Studying language opens doors to interdisciplinary communication, enabling students to collaborate and interact with peers from diverse academic backgrounds; (2) Communication Skills Development: General language courses help students develop their communication skills, including writing, speaking, and active listening. These skills are essential in daily life and in a professional context where effective communication is highly valued. (3) Introduction to Culture: Studying a language is often closely related to understanding the culture associated with that language. Students can explore cultural aspects linked to the language, broadening their insights into cultural diversity globally; (4) Adaptation in a Global Environment: In the era of globalization, the ability to speak more than one language can be a valuable asset. Studying language as a general course prepares students to interact and work in a globally connected environment; (5) Critical Thinking Skills Development: Learning the structure and rules of a language involves critical and analytical thinking. Students can sharpen their critical thinking skills while understanding the nuances and contextual usage of language; (6) National Identity Strengthening: Studying the national language can strengthen national identity and pride in cultural heritage. It can serve as a

means to foster unity among students from diverse backgrounds; (7) Preparation for Multinational Careers: For students planning international careers, studying a general language can provide a competitive edge globally. Many companies value employees who can communicate in languages used in the international market; (8) Crucial for Specialized Programs: Language often forms the foundation for understanding literature, scientific texts, and specialized resources across various disciplines. In some programs, such as literature, history, or cultural studies, language proficiency is critical to delving deeper into the subject matter (Ansoriyah, 2021; Choirunissa, 2016).

Studying language as a general course can be valuable in developing skills applicable across various life domains. It prepares students for academic success and provides a solid foundation for career advancement and personal growth. Lastly, regarding Access to Global Information and Resources, Bahasa Indonesia is crucial in accessing local resources and knowledge of Bahasa Indonesia's culture and context. On the other hand, English plays a pivotal role in enabling students to access global information, participate in international conferences, and collaborate with researchers from various countries. In conclusion, the topics mentioned above constitute the content of the general Bahasa Indonesia and English language courses and are crucial for understanding every student in the university setting.

CONCLUSION

It is strongly recommended that courses in language learning teach the rules of Bahasa Indonesia and English. Essential materials for the general introductory courses in Bahasa Indonesia and English are on the development of language and English in the modern era, the use of language varieties that are appropriate to the context, the use of EYD and proper grammar, finding inappropriate sentences in written works; reasoning that is appropriate to the topic; making paragraphs that are appropriate to the topic; determining topics and summarizing scientific papers; and making scientific papers that are appropriate to the topic and title. It is essential for all of us to love Bahasa Indonesia more, the language that unites us all. Learning Bahasa Indonesia and English in higher education thus provides a strong foundation for academic success, career skills development, and active participation in a global context.

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