


The English Students' Problems in Facing TOEFL Test at STIE Madani Balikpapan During the Academic Year 2022/2023

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SUBMISSION TRACK	A B S T R A C T
Submitted : 20 October 2023 Accepted : 20 November 2023 Published : 25 November 2023	<p>TOEFL is a language testing tool widely used in universities to check students' capability in English mastery. The purpose of this study, titled "The English Students' Problems in Facing the TOEFL Test at STIE Madani Balikpapan during the Academic Year 2022-2023," is to: (1) determine the issues experienced by Accounting Department students when performing the TOEFL test; and (2) determine ways to analyze among English students at STIE Madani Balikpapan with high TOEFL grades and low TOEFL grades. This study's sampling consists of 20 accounting students from the Economic Faculty at STIE Madani Balikpapan who took the TOEFL test. This study employed descriptive qualitative research. (1) Semi-structured interviews were used to gather information regarding the challenges that English students confront when completing the TOEFL test. (2) A closed-ended questionnaire was used to gather information about the ways in which students' study, including study style, taking notes, ascertaining along the way, reading use, conning, and time direction. The consequences of this consultation bring out that, at that point, there are some issues that may arise while attempting the TOEFL test. The issues that have been identified are connected to a deficiency in English language achievement and cognition, inadequate time instruction, suffering absorption, and bearing issuing with the final retentions. The questionnaire consequences establish a few divergences in the field of study use between English language educators with eminent TOEFL grades and educators who have poor TOEFL grades.</p>
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Introduction

TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) represents single by the prerequisites that accounting department students must meet before graduating. Certain educational institutions in Indonesia, including the Economic Faculty of STIE Madani Balikpapan, determine this policy. It necessitates educates to induce a lower limit TOEFL grade of 500 (the grade threshold varies by university). This policy comprised produced equally an English language technique acceptable because it is conceived that at this grade level, educates are set up to graduate, examine overseas, or go forward their studies to a more eminent grade, as well as teach. As a result, taking the TOEFL test is required for graduation.

Despite having studied English for several semesters, Accounting students face numerous challenges when taking the TOEFL test. As a result, they are unable to achieve the minimal grade that has been set. One of the most typical problems in the TOEFL test is a lack of understanding of the test.

TOEFL issues may also be related to students' study habits. Having good study habits is one method to increase performance. Crede and Kuncel (2008) agree on this point. According to Crede (2008), the third pillar of academic achievement should be study habit and skill. As a result, students' study habits influence their ability to pass the TOEFL test. Effective time direction, self-control, attending, and memorization is equitable a hardly a of the numerous studies uses that volition aid educates succeed in their studies, including the TOEFL test. Reading comprehension, hearing, and structure are the three English skills that are examined in the TOEFL test, which is required for graduation for accounting department students at STIE Madani Balikpapan. This triplet English language accomplishments essential comprise acquired, subdued, and implemented along educates. Directing those requirements cannot comprise established in a abruptly time period; them compels attempt, exercise, and a hard discipline use. This establishes that educates' TOEFL grades force out array from eminent to degraded reckoning on duty their discipline uses. Since a consequence, it is decisive to empathize them examine uses in order to assist them in resolving their TOEFL test concerns.

The troubles of discipline; a. What are the troubles that English language educates aspect as acquiring the TOEFL examination? b. How come educates on depressed TOEFL grades and high TOEFL grades discipline otherwise?

Previous Research Review; The EFL Students' Problems in replying the examination of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) by Mahmud inquires the students' issues with replying the TOEFL. Her inquiry is focused on graduate educates at a public institution in Makasar, Indonesia. According to the findings, the main challenges that students have in responding the TOEFL examination is referable a compounding of components, admitting more a couple of basal accomplishments, lower recitation, lower motive, and educates' singular variances such as age and social station. At that place comprises ordinal account occupying the characteristic trouble from primary troubles of the educates on acquiring TOEFL examination in Murni's field of study, which centers on many conflicting causes in responding TOEFL grade of the student.

Wathoni, et al., comported a field of study entitled “Analysis on EFL Learners’ Capability in Mastering TOEFL Test on Reading Comprehension”. Reasoned that the educates by EFL scholars had very low capability in answering TOEFL reading comprehension section. Therefore, it is importantly for the educates who have low ability in reading comprehension to subduing the strategies in responding the reading test. Based on the research coming up, it can be generalized that in fact, out of a total of 50 reading troubles with 25 students, it was examined that students' ability to response the reading comprehension section was very depleted, it was ascertained that this student's grades were very low, 96%. Their difficulties were covered into some types of problems those were implied detail, stated detail, vocabulary in context, main idea, and determine meanings.

Indeed, the causes of their troubles in responding the subtest were found. It was demonstrated through the internal factor of the students’ perception, feeling, thought, and experience in acting upon with the TOEFL such as were deficiency of vocabularies, their behavior in reading the text gradually, getting stuck in part of problematic text, and acting in hurry that made the students ineffective to complete on time. And also, they did not have an advantageous strategy. By the statement preceding, the researchers conveyed research to enquire the undergraduate educates’ potentiality in completing TOEFL reading

comprehension test, entitled EFL Learners' Capability in Answering TOEFL test on Reading Comprehension Section of the English Language Education Study Program of EFL Learners.

Research Method

This comprises a case discipline that apply the qualitative descriptive technique. Merriam (1998) discovers example study enquiry because the borderline of the event. This analyze population comprised of English language educates from STIE Madani Balikpapan's semester 9 and more eminent on the school year 2022/2023 (morning and evening classes). There are approximately 195 pupils. According to Arikunto (2002), if the subject is smaller than 100, it is preferable to do studies on the entire population. However, if the population exceeds 100, it is recommended to take 10% to 15% or 20% to 25%. In conformity on this impression, 20 English language educates (approximately 10% of the add together) comprised opted because the sample distribution. Responders in that examine bear comprised picked out at random from amongst English language educates who bear acquired the TOEFL examination.

The accompanying data point analytic thinking methods were used in this cogitation: written document Examination The researcher commencement adjoined with the English educates of STIE Madani Balikpapan (population), and then asked them whether or not they accepted the TOEFL test. Whenever they articulated that they accepted asked the TOEFL examination, then request that they bring their TOEFL certificate in order to collect valid data.

In consecrate to alleviate information analysis, the information from the interviews was collected first, then transcribed. Endorsement, the transliterated information was condensed in order to concentrate on the most significant aspects of the study. The abbreviated information was then assessed to ascertain the consequences ran across by TOEFL test participants. In a table, the data were organized from the most common to the least common difficulties.

Questionnaire; the selective information assembled from the questionnaire comprised accumulated and added together. Beginning, the information comprised concentrated supported questionnaire particulars. Second base, the information comprised tabularized along computing the percentage of the information. The tabularized information and portion would comprise presented in a table and organized by basic to lowest ordinarily.

Results and Discussion

The issues encountered by English students are given in the preceding section, and they are classified into four significant issues.

1. Deficiency by English language accomplishment and cognition: This point addresses the pupils' lack of English proficiency and expertise. All of the interviewees acknowledged and mentioned comparable statements about their English language issues. They indicated that they had problems with fast speech rate in the listening segment, as well as poor word and sound recognition. They also stated that they encountered unfamiliar terminology that hampered their ability to answer the test. They also had difficulty following unexpected topics in the listening and reading portions, and they constituted perplexed about the primary theme in the listening and reading sections. In the listening and reading section, a responder stated that they apprehended words but not the meant content. Some responders stated that they were unsure whether the construction responses on the test were accurate or

not, and that they could not distinguish between the subject, object, and verb of a phrase in the grammar or structure portion.

2. Poor Time Management: This point addresses the pupils' time direction issues. There are 12 responders who mentioned that they accepted time direction issues. They said that they were unable to split their time effectively, thus whilst the time beetled off, they had not accomplished the examination. They besides declared that they were concentrated on the doubtfulness's without observing the clock and comprised unwitting of the clock limit. These issues usually arise when participants are faced with the reading and listening sections.

3. Poor Concentration: This point addresses issues that students confront when it comes to concentration. There were 8 individuals that elaborated on their difficulties with concentration. They couldn't make any noise while taking the test since it would disrupt their attention. Furthermore, the students encountered difficulties when answering the final part of the test. They indicated that they could not devote their whole attention to the reading test because they were sleepy, fatigued, or bored.

4. Memory challenge: This point addresses the challenge of memorizing that English students experience. Three respondents mentioned this memory problem. According to the interview data, there are two specific problems: forgetting words or phrases just heard in the listening section and blanking out articulates or phrases barely read in the reading section in the listening section. Once they found out the conversation from the recording, they implied the words or content of the conversation; all the same, they cannot call back a hundred percent of the recording when the recording discontinued. Furthermore, they advised that it would be best if we could make a little note throughout the listening portion to help us remember the tape. Some of the determinations' troubles are corresponding to those in the theory "Common Problems in Learning English," however the researcher discovered more particular issues which are not discussed in the theory. As previously said, there are four major issues that arise when learning English: lack of desire, deficiency of vocabulary, deficiency of grammar apprehension, pronunciation, and acting upon retentiveness. As at that place is no speaking factor in the TOEFL examination (prediction), the pronunciation trouble did not develop in determination. A fewer motivational factors is not determined in the findings because all of the responders stated that they acquired the TOEFL examination since they needed to acknowledge their English language technique and besides their TOEFL grade, merely the nearly motive comprised that they demanded to get a TOEFL certification.

5. The TOEFL Test that was conducting on STIE Madani Balikpapan has the result not too satisfaction, since English are not the students' field of interesting subject, their majoring on Economics fields.

This consequence is relevant to the trouble of acquiring the TOEFL examination for educates' TOEFL grade. Equally commonly understood, "practice makes complete." For the educates have less practice, the flaws that arise in the findings can be stated. Students who have taken the TOEFL additional than three times, or up to six times, will convert habitual to the examination, and it is considerably recognized that institutions who direct the TOEFL test prediction occasionally present the same examination, which might affect the students' TOEFL grade.

Ripping off impacts TOEFL examination Grade; Cheating is one of the issues that affects TOEFL examination grade. Educates with depressed English language ability can accomplish high TOEFL examination grades for they do not use their true abilities. This issue

becomes a problem that institutions that conduct TOEFL examinations seek to minimize and prevent by providing supplemental oversight.

Unlike Study Habits of English educates with eminent and depressed TOEFL Grades. There were 20 Accounting Department samples from STIE Madani Balikpapan. Ten students with a minimum TOEFL grade of 500 were included in the sample, as were ten students with a grade of less than 500.

Table 1. Questionnaire data

Aspect/Category	Study Routines	Oftenest by happening	
		Educates with TOEFL Grade	Eminent Students with Depressed TOEFL Grade
Studying Style	Trying to be the best in class	70%	40%
Take Note	Using English to communicate with some people	90%	50%
Experience-Based Learning	Using English to communicate with some people	40%	10%
	Putting what have learned into practice	50%	10%
Recalling	Attempting to establish a link between new materials and previously recognized materials.	60%	40%
Time Direction	Applying a commotion list to keep track of academic or personal actions accomplished	40%	20%
	Commence examining since a test or examination at any rate a couple of days ahead accepting it.	70%	30%
	Bearing capable time since training and refreshment	80%	50%

Conclusion

Based on the data point analysis and discourse in the preceding chapter, it is possible to determine that: 1. English language educates of the Economic Faculty of STIE Madani Balikpapan encountered certain difficulties in completing the TOEFL examination, which were affiliated 4 troubles with 15 specific troubles. These comes forth include a shortage of English language technique and cognition, inadequate time direction, mediocre absorption, and a consequence with the final retention. 2. The issues caused by their study habits. Students with eminent TOEFL grades and students with depressed TOEFL grades have a significantly dissimilar percentage of certain behaviors when studying. This circumstances also occurred as educates’ majoring is on Economics field.

Those cogitation uses that are associated with concentrating on being the fullest in cogitation, acquiring notes on course lectures, executing what has been acquired, setting about to make a correlativity between fresh materials on data with materials previously acknowledged, employing a commotion inclination to continue track of discharging academic or individual activeness's, beginning to study for quizzes or examinations at the least numerous days ahead before accepting them, and bearing adequate time since school day and amusing. Those examine patterns appearance that educates with eminent TOEFL grades outnumber pupils with depressed TOEFL grades.

The information evokes that English language educates on eminent TOEFL grades and depressed TOEFL grades have trouble authorizing the TOEFL test, which is also determined by their discipline uses. They must strengthen their study habits, particularly their reading and memorizing practices, in order to reduce their troubles with the TOEFL test. Those two disciplines use have the lowest rate of succeeded. This explains why the majority of students struggle with the reading section of the TOEFL examination.

Educate with depressed TOEFL grades must improve their cogitation uses in order to benefit from receive associated to rehearsing English language accomplishments, considering all students with poor TOEFL grades have a problem with a deficiency of English skills and knowledge. Students with inadequate TOEFL grades must also amend their cogitation uses, such as considering for at minimum two hours every day, considering only 10% of students with depressed TOEFL exercise this cogitation use. Whenever they dedicate further time to examining, they will comprise able to acquire more and heighten their grades even when accepting the TOEFL examination.

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