

## **Investigating The Effects of Twitter on Students' English Writing Skill**

Ririn Pratiwi Suharto  
Politeknik Negeri Malang  
Jl. Soekarno Hatta No. 9 , Malang, Jawa Timur  
ririnpratiwi@polinema.ac.id

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### **Abstract**

With a limited number of characters per tweet, writing on Twitter requires creativity. It is unique media format has not only revolutionized online communication but also created a distinct style of writing. In this case, Twitter stands as a platform that reflects the way we write and communicate in English. Researcher wants to investigate the effects of twitter on students' English writing skill. This is a case study method. This method helps the researcher to identify the problem in detail information. The data collected from questionnaire in English writing learning process. The lecturer becomes the observer or researcher of the research. On the other hand, students become the object of the research. As the conclusion, Twitter had a significant impact on students' writing skills in English. It challenges them to express their thoughts succinctly and effectively within a limited number of characters, encouraging creativity. However, it can also lead to errors and the use of informal language. Meanwhile, Twitter provides exposure to a variety of content and interactions with people from diverse backgrounds, which improves grammatical understanding. It also helps expand vocabulary by offering different words in context.

**Keywords:** Effect; Twitter; Writing;

### **1.Introduction (Capitalized first letter, Times New Romans, Bold, 10 pt)**

Nowadays, technology is developing very rapidly. Advances in technology have affected almost every aspect of our lives and can simplify many daily activities. One of the examples is in terms of communication. We can communicate with smart devices like smartphones. With smartphones, we can communicate easily via short messages, voice calls, and video calls (Faisal Rahman & Tri Suryanto, 2022; Malvado et al., 2021; Saleh & Muhayyang, 2021). In addition, smartphones also allow us to access the internet, explore information, and interact with social media. Not only that, smartphones can also be used by students for various aspects of learning, such as writing activities.

Most of English Language teaching uses technology as learning media (Putra & Suharto, 2022; Suharto et al., 2023; Zubaidi et al., 2021). Technology helps lecturers to provide learning media (Suharto, 2022, 2023a, 2023b; Zubaidi et al., 2023). Writing is an activity that is often done by everyone, especially students (Juniardi & Utami, 2018; Masdianti et al., 2021; Romadhon et al., 2020; Sakkir et al., 2022). In fact, writing is also one of the compulsory subjects for students majoring in languages, especially in the English Department (Indrilla & Ciptaningrum, 2018; Parmawati et al., 2020; Sa'adah, 2020). Right now, writing activities can also be helped by technology (Dorji, 2021; Dwivedi et al., 2021; Fahmi & Rachmijati, 2021). The example is using a word processing application such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Writing in technology refers to the process of using technological tools and platforms to create, edit, and publish written content (Espinoza-Celi & Pintado, 2020; Mitchell, 2019; Thandavaraj et al., 2021). One of the writing platforms that is currently trending is social media, such as Twitter (Juniardi & Utami, 2018; Risnawati et al., 2022; Romadhon et al., 2020).

Twitter is one of the media where we can express our thoughts, share information, and communicate through writing in a global context. Twitter has become a thriving space for concise yet impactful written expression. With a limited number of characters per tweet, writing on Twitter requires creativity (Adam et al., 2021; Mantra & Widiastuti, 2023). This character limit makes every word count. This unique media format has not only revolutionized online communication but also created a distinct style of writing. In this case, Twitter stands as a platform that reflects the way we write and communicate in English.

In the last few years, Twitter has gained popularity among students as a platform for writing and expressing their thoughts in English. This raises the question of how Twitter influences students' writing skills in English. It is important to note that Twitter's impact on writing can vary from person to person depending on how they use the platform. Some argue that Twitter may have a negative impact on writing. While others believe that Twitter has a positive impact because it can develop student writing. From the benefit of twitter, researcher wants to investigate the effects of twitter on students' English writing skill.

**2.Method**

This is a case study method. This method helps the researcher to identify the problem in detail information. The data collected from questionnaire in English writing learning process. The lecturer becomes the observer or researcher of the research. On the other hand, students become the object of the research.

**3. Findings and Discussion**

Table 1. Students' perception on the use of twitter on students' English writing skill

No	Statements	Responses				
		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	Twitter is the way to create effective communication in writing skill		2		11	17
2	Twitter is a space to write for trending topics and viral content			5	18	7
3	Twitter can give users exposure to authentic linguistic content and grammatical structures				22	8
4	Twitter is indeed an alternative for learning vocabulary for improving writing skill		3		15	12
5	Twitter is the alternative media to improve the writing skill			8	7	15

Based on Table 1, there are 2 students disagree, 11 students agree, and 17 students strongly agree that “Twitter is the way to create effective communication in writing skill.” It means that although writing is a difficult activity to do, but It's no wonder that some posts on social media platforms such as Twitter, contain grammatical errors, typos, and convoluted information. The best solution for that is to proofread and edit our posts to reduce errors before posting and take the time to ensure messages are clear and concise, which can promote effective communication. Moreover, effective communication is an important aspect of writing. Writers must not only have a deep understanding of the subject matter but also have the ability to express their thoughts and ideas clearly.

In addition, the statement of “Twitter is a space to write for trending topics and viral content” has several responses. There are 5 students neutral, 18 students agree, and 7 students agree with that statement. It means that twitter is one of the most popular microblogging services that many people use. With so many users, Twitter is a place to interact with people of all backgrounds to open conversation and provide space to share information and opinions with their writing. Twitter is also a space for trending topics and viral content. It happened because the retweet feature on Twitter can easily be used by users to strengthen content by sharing it with their followers. This allows for fast deployment and exposure to a larger audience, making information or news go viral. Moreover, hashtags play an important role in organizing and categorizing content, making it easier to find and share.

There are 22 students agree and 8 students agree that “Twitter can give users exposure to authentic linguistic content and grammatical structures.” This statement highlights the potential benefits of using Twitter to learn English, and we agree with the statement. The statement also underlines the importance of grammatical structure in English. Interactions between people from different fields and backgrounds on Twitter can give users exposure to authentic linguistic content and grammatical structures. The use of the real-world language spoken by these people can increase their grammatical understanding and help them develop patterns of language use. So overall, Twitter improves user understanding and application of grammar rules in practical and different contexts.

Then, there are 3 students disagree, 15 students agree, and 12 students strongly agree that “Twitter is indeed an alternative for learning vocabulary for improving writing skill.” That statement its broad user base and varied content, it offers a unique opportunity to discover and learn new words in context. The platform’s short format also encourages users to convey their message succinctly, requiring them to choose their words carefully. By actively using Twitter, users not only expand their vocabulary but also apply it in practical contexts. Overall, Twitter's potential as a tool for increasing vocabulary lies in its ability to provide exposure to multiple language expressions and foster an interactive learning environment.

The last statement mentions that “Twitter is the alternative media to improve the writing skill.” It has various responses from students. There are 8 students neutral, 7 students agree, and 15 students strongly agree with that statement.

It means that twitter can create opportunities for the students to engage in discussions, broaden social networks, and work collaboratively on writing projects that involve the rest of the class. In the context of a writing class, students can use Twitter to read and interact with various types of relevant text, such as short articles, recent updates, or quotes from famous figures. This can help and enrich students' insights and provide them with real world writing experiences.

#### 4. Conclusion

Overall, Twitter had a significant impact on students' writing skills in English. It challenges them to express their thoughts succinctly and effectively within a limited number of characters, encouraging creativity. However, it can also lead to errors and the use of informal language. Meanwhile, Twitter provides exposure to a variety of content and interactions with people from diverse backgrounds, which improves grammatical understanding. It also helps expand vocabulary by offering different words in context. In addition, students can receive feedback, engage in discussions, collaborate with peers, and perfect their writing skills with this platform. Twitter's global reach and fast communication also motivate language learning and offer insight into different cultures. Additionally, when used in conjunction with traditional teaching methods, Twitter can be a valuable tool for improving writing skills, vocabulary, cultural understanding, and language motivation.

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