



## The Ability of Students in the Hospitality Accommodation Program at Vocational High School to Write Paragraphs Using English Terms in the Food and Beverage Service Subject

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### ABSTRACT

**Purpose of the study:** This research aims to determine the ability of class XI students of Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City hotel accommodation skills program in writing paragraphs using English terms contained in the Food and Beverage Service subject.

**Methodology:** The population in this study were class XI students of the Hospitality Accommodation Skills Program at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City, a sample of 34 class XI students in hotel accommodation 2 as respondents. The data collection technique uses the test method. The data obtained were analyzed using quantitative descriptive analysis formulas with mean, median, mode.

**Main Findings:** The results showed that the majority of students demonstrated adequate abilities in expressing ideas and concepts related to food and beverage service in English. However, there are still some students who face difficulties in applying competence and appropriate grammar in this specific context. Therefore, there is a need for a more focused and interactive learning approach to improve students' writing skills in this subject.

**Novelty/Originality of this study:** The research makes a significant contribution to the understanding of the challenges and potential in English language learning in the hospitality sector. It is hoped that the results of this research will not only provide a deeper understanding of students' abilities in using English, but also highlight effective learning strategies in improving students' language skills in contexts relevant to the hospitality industry.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Vocational high school students around the world play an important role in preparing for diverse careers and supporting global economic growth. Vocational high school students receive practical training in areas such as engineering, technology, health, and business, which equips high school students with the skills necessary to face the challenges of the modern world of work [1], [2]. With a focus on project-based learning and industrial internships, vocational high school students have the opportunity to hone practical skills in real environments, preparing high school students for success in their chosen careers and supporting future innovation and economic development [3].

Vocational high school students in Indonesia are trained with practical skills relevant to fields such as technology, agriculture, automotive and others, so they are ready to go straight into the world of work after graduating [4], [5]. Apart from that, vocational students are also given the opportunity to develop creativity and innovation in completing practical projects that support skills-based learning. Through vocational education, students are encouraged to become qualified professionals and be able to compete in the global job market, while also maintaining cultural diversity and local values.

The hotel accommodation major is one educational option that offers a variety of knowledge and skills in the hospitality industry [6], [7]. In this major, students will learn about hotel management, guest services, room operations, catering, and other skills needed to become professionals in this field. High school students will be given an in-depth understanding of hotel service standards and best practices in the industry, as well as practical training in handling various situations that may arise in hotel management [8], [9]. This educational program also encourages students to develop communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills, which are essential to succeed in a career in the dynamic and competitive hospitality industry.

The ability of Vocational High School students to use English well is an important aspect in preparation for entering an increasingly integrated global world of work. Through targeted and practice-oriented learning programs, vocational school students are given the opportunity to improve their English language skills, both in terms of listening, speaking, reading and writing [10], [11]. Middle school students not only learn structure and vocabulary, but are also invited to apply English in real contexts, such as project presentations, job interviews, and communication with colleagues from various cultural backgrounds [12], [13]. With good English language skills, vocational school students have a competitive advantage that allows them to interact effectively in a global work environment and take advantage of wider career opportunities.

This research is in line with research conducted by Astawa & Ardiasa [14], in food and beverage service, for example, language functions as a communication tool that connects servers and customers for certain purposes. Meanwhile, the word service is defined as the act of fulfilling the needs, desires and desires of guests. In other words, service is what servers provide to meet guests' expectations when they come to the hotel. Research gaps in the Food and Beverage subject are often related to a lack of focus on cultural and sustainability aspects in food production, consumption and distribution. Although much research has been conducted in the areas of food safety, food technology, and nutrition, there is still little research highlighting aspects such as local culinary heritage, sustainable agricultural practices, or the impact of the food industry on the environment. This gap creates space for more in-depth research to explore the relationship between food, culture and the environment, and to develop sustainable solutions in the food and beverage industry.

In the Food and Beverage subject, research novelty continues to be the main focus for academics and industry practitioners. The latest research covers various aspects, from innovations in food processing technology to new discoveries in food science that can improve the quality, safety and nutritional value of food products [15], [16]. New breakthroughs such as the development of natural preservation methods, increasing production efficiency, and identifying functional food ingredients are becoming a major concern in efforts to answer global challenges related to health, sustainability, and food security [17], [18]. Thus, these studies not only open up opportunities for the development of the food and beverage industry, but also make a significant contribution to our understanding of food and its impact on human health and well-being.

Research in the Food and Beverage subject has very important implications in increasing understanding of health, sanitation, product innovation, and consumer needs in the food and beverage industry [19]. Through research, students can gain a deeper understanding of ways to improve the quality and safety of food products, reduce waste and the environmental impact of production processes, and identify emerging market trends and demands [20]. The implications of this research not only affect the food and beverage industry directly, but also make a significant contribution to meeting increasingly complex and diverse consumer needs. Therefore, research in the Food and Beverage subject not only broadens students' horizons, but also plays an important role in progress and innovation in the food and beverage industry as a whole.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

The approach used in this research is a quantitative descriptive approach because it describes the abilities of class XI students of the Hospitality Accommodation Skills Program at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City. Quantitative descriptive research is an approach used to describe or explain the characteristics of a phenomenon or population using numerical data [21]. In this research, researchers collected quantitative data from representative samples to analyze frequency distributions, averages and relationships between variables.

The population in this study was class To obtain the sample in this research, a quota random sampling technique was used. Purposive sampling is the sampling method applied in this research. Purposive sampling was used to obtain research subjects based on special considerations for research needs. The researcher determined 2 classes as samples, namely classes XI APH 1 and XI APH 2.

The test method was used to obtain data regarding the ability of class XI students of the Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City hotel accommodation skills program to use English terms contained in the Food and

Beverage Service subject in writing paragraphs. In this research, student writing tests were held on a limited basis. This means that the test taker's writing is done with certain limitations. This limitation is in the form of a determined theme, namely writing paragraphs using English terms contained in the Food and Beverage Service subject.

The questionnaire used in the research was drawn from the Likert scale. The student ratings had a different score: not very good 5, not good 4, enough 3, good 2 and very good to score 1. As for the criteria of the given student needs, it can be seen on the following

Table 1. The student range and scoring criteria

Category	Range
Not Very Good	8.0-14.4
Not Good	14.5-20.8
Enough	20.9-27.2
Good	27.3-33.6
Very Good	33.7-40.0

Descriptive statistics is data analysis carried out by describing quantitative data or information by looking for average, median, minimum and maximum values to get an idea of the characteristics of the data. The average is used to determine the middle value of a data set, while the median represents the middle value when the data is sorted from smallest to largest. The minimum and maximum values indicate the lowest and highest limits of the data set. Testing in this research was carried out with the help of the IBM SPSS 26 program.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tourism schools are primarily designed to meet skills and skills needs foreign language proficiency at the same time. In food and beverage service major, English is also taught to fulfill the requirements. To pursue their desires working in industry, high school graduates strive to enter tourism school [22]. Vocational school graduates are taught English specifically based on major. For example, front office majors are taught English with vocabulary [23], [24]. Likewise with students who take majors food and beverage service is taught in the Food and Beverage major Service Area. English is considered almost essential in all aspects, especially in the world of work, including hospitality business. This is true because many people from various backgrounds travel world and interact with other people [25], [26]. This makes English an international language it is very important for them to communicate and it is easier to gain mutual understanding. As a rapidly growing field, tourism has become one of the most sought after fields of work for our young generation who have just graduated from Vocational High School [27]. There are also quite a lot of opportunities to interact with foreigners The large amount of pay motivates them to work in the hospitality sector industry.

The following are the results of descriptive statistics of English language skills of students at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City which are presented in table 2

Table 2. Descriptive statistics of English language skills of students at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City

Class	Category	Range	F	%	Mean	Median	Min	Max
XI APH 1	Not Very Good	8.0-14.4	0	0				
	Not Good	14.5-20.8	0	0				
	Enough	20.9-27.2	4	23.30	3.2	3.0	8	30
	Good	27.3-33.6	5	30.10				
	Very Good	33.7-40.0	8	46.60				
XI APH 2	Not Very Good	8.0-14.4	0	0				
	Not Good	14.5-20.8	0	0				
	Enough	20.9-27.2	3	17.55	3.4	3.2	8	32
	Good	27.3-33.6	5	30.25				
	Very Good	33.7-40.0	9	52.20				

Based on Table 2, it is known that there are 8 students at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City class XI APH 1 in the very good category in English language skills with a percentage of 46.60%. Meanwhile, there were 5 students in the good category, and only 4 students in the English language proficiency category were sufficient. Meanwhile, there were 9 students at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City class XI APH 2 in the very good category in English language skills with a percentage of 52.20%. Meanwhile, there were 5 other students in the good category, and 3 students in the category of sufficient English language skills.

Based on the results of descriptive statistics conducted on the English language skills of Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City students, it can be concluded that the students' English language skills are quite

good. Although the majority of students demonstrate adequate abilities in expressing ideas and concepts related to food and beverage service in English, there are still some students who need additional guidance in improving sentence structure and appropriate use of vocabulary.

This research is in line with research conducted by Amir et al [28], those who said that the teaching methods provided by their teachers at the school secondary school. Most English teachers in secondary schools teach using some speak English. This means they teach using Indonesian language, some even use their mother tongue. The second reason is English class the duration is relatively the same. In secondary schools, English is generally taught way and full time during their school time. Different from vocational school, English teaching according to the major, but the time must be adjusted to the major internship/job training programs in industries related to their major [29], [30]. Previous research may have highlighted certain aspects of students' ability to use English terms related to food and beverage services, but there is still a need to explore more deeply the extent of students' understanding of these terms and their ability to apply them in context. write paragraphs. Factors that influence student abilities, such as the teaching methods used, use of relevant resources, and students' level of motivation, also need to be taken into account to gain a more comprehensive understanding of these gaps.

This research highlights important aspects of vocational education. Through this approach, the researchers explored the extent to which students were able to integrate English vocabulary relevant to food and beverage service into their writing [31], [32]. It is hoped that the findings from this research will provide valuable insights for the development of curricula and teaching methods that are more effective in supporting students' English communication skills in the context of the hospitality industry.

This research has significant implications in the context of vocational education in Indonesia. The findings from this research can provide a clearer view of the extent to which students have understanding and skills in using English especially in the context of food and beverage services. The implications of the results of this research can be used as a basis for developing a more effective and relevant curriculum, as well as assisting schools in developing more effective learning strategies to improve students' abilities in communicating and writing in English in the context of the hotel industry.

However, this study has several limitations in that the research sample may not represent the overall student population in addition to that, learning environmental factors may influence student abilities, such as available resources and learning support. Therefore, the research results need to be considered in this context in interpreting students' ability to write paragraphs using English terms in the Food and Beverage Service subject.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that the ability of students in the XI Hotel Accommodation Program at Vocational High School 4 in Jambi City in writing paragraphs in the Food and Beverage Service subject tends to vary. Although the majority of students demonstrate adequate abilities in expressing ideas and concepts related to food and beverage service in English, there are still some students who need additional guidance in improving sentence structure and appropriate use of vocabulary. Therefore, it is recommended to provide more practical exercises and feedback to students to improve their writing skills in the context of food and beverage service in English.

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