

PREFACE

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

Praise and gratitude be to God, the lord of the universe, for His grace and blessings on me and to allow me to fulfil my thesis entitled "Investigating EFL Students' Perceptions of the QuillBot Paraphrasing Tool in Academic Writing." This thesis has been prepared as one of the requirements for the thesis in the English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, Universitas Siliwangi, Tasikmalaya.

This study focuses on the use of paraphrasing tools, specifically QuillBot, by EFL students in academic writing, with an emphasis on how this tool helps prevent plagiarism. The aim is to explore EFL students' perceptions regarding the usefulness and ease of use of the QuillBot paraphrasing tool in maintaining the originality of their academic writing. The author is motivated to examine the role of technology in aiding students to preserve the integrity of their work.

The thesis includes a background, literature review, and methodology. The background provides context and explains the purpose of the study, while the literature review discusses previous theories and research on EFL students' perceptions, paraphrasing, and the use of QuillBot in academic writing. The research design is a descriptive case study, with data collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed using the thematic analysis method proposed by Braun and Clarke.

The author acknowledges that this study may have limitations and welcomes feedback and suggestions for further improvement. It is hoped that this research will contribute to the field of education, particularly in the evolving area of English language teaching.

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