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Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya

# SKRIPSI

**EXPLORING ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDENTS'  
PERCEPTION OF PERPLEXITY AI IN LEARNING  
WRITING**

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**PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS  
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**EXPLORING ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDENTS'  
PERCEPTION OF PERPLEXITY AI IN LEARNING  
WRITING**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**Presented for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
Undergraduate in English Education Department of  
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**MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURABAYA**

**2026**

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

### Motto :

*“anglaras ilining banyu, angeli ananging ora keli”*

### Dedication

I dedicate this thesis as an expression of my deepest gratitude and thanks.

1. **To the author's mother, Mrs. Siti Astutik.** Beautiful woman, thank you for all the prayers you've offered throughout your life for author, so that she could finally cross the finish line. Thank you for all your sacrifices and hard work to provide everything author needed and wanted while living far from home. Your unwavering love has brought peace to author's life.
2. **To the author's father, Moch. Mualim.** A man with a gentle heart thank you for your hard work and dedication, which allowed the author to complete college. Thank you for making the author feel safe and protected. Your love and affection will always be beautiful in the author's eyes, forever and ever.
3. **To the author's little sister, Wafa Alimun.** Thank you for supporting me, even though we don't always see eye to eye and often disagree. In the future, author's hope she gets everything she wants in a beautiful way, without having to go through the hardships i've experienced. May my education be a source of strength for her in the future.
4. **To my best friends first, to Hana.** Thank you, Hana, for being so understanding, making so many sacrifices, and

always trying to be there for me as i completed my education in this lonely place far from home. Your silly antics will always be a source of happiness for me. Stay healthy and cheerful Hana. **Next, to Uwais** thank you so much for all the kindness you've shown me. I feel like i have an older brother here that i've never had before. I wish you good health and smooth sailing in life. **Next, to Vania**, thank you so much for your random antics that filled the emptiness in my days and made them more vibrant. Guys, thank you for all the stories, laughter, and sorrows that have blended together into a beautiful whole that makes me feel so happy. Thank you for the wonderful days we've spent together let's go on vacation again soon, okay. I miss you all so much.

5. **To my roommate, Mia.** A Javanese girl from the same hometown as the author, who was also my friend back when I first started college. Thank you so much for all your advice, which helped me finish my education. Thank you for being there for me when I was feeling lost, until I was finally able to keep moving forward. May you have a happier life, Mia.

## LEMBAR PERSETUJUAN PEMBIMBING

Skripsi yang ditulis oleh Virnanda Agustina Putri NIM 20221111015 dengan judul "Exploring English Education Students' Perception of Perplexity AI in Learning Writing" ini telah disetujui oleh dosen pembimbing untuk diujikan dalam UJIAN SKRIPSI pada tanggal 22 Juni 2026.

Dosen Pembimbing

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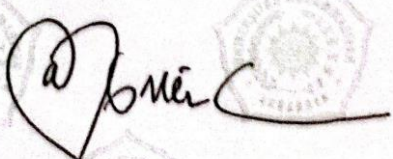
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## LEMBAR PENGESAHAN PANITIA UJIAN

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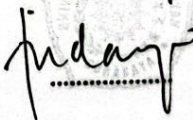
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## PERNYATAAN TIDAK MELAKUKAN PLAGIASI

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## ABSTRACT

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In the digital era, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in English language learning is growing rapidly. This study aims to explore English Education students' perceptions of using Perplexity AI in learning writing. A quantitative descriptive method with a survey design was employed. A 4-point Likert scale questionnaire comprising 38 items was distributed to 76 English Education students at Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Results revealed that students held a positive perception of Perplexity AI (overall mean  $M = 3.203$ ). Students primarily used Perplexity AI for research and brainstorming (50%), with a frequency of 3-5 times per week (42.1%) and sessions averaging 15-30 minutes (57.9%). The most significant finding was that 90.8% of students independently developed prompt literacy, recognizing that clearer prompts yield better AI responses. Additionally, Perplexity AI's source citation feature was identified as a primary driver of academic trust. The only notable concern was over-reliance (73.7%). These findings support the structured integration of Perplexity AI in English writing curricula.

**Keywords:** *AI assisted learning, Perplexity AI, Student perception.*

## ABSTRAK

Putri, Virnanda Agustina. 2026. *Exploring English Education Students' Perception of Perplexity AI in Learning Writing*. Skripsi, Fakultas Pendidikan, Komunikasi, dan Sains. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Pembimbing I: Dr. Gusti Nur Hafifah, S.Pd., M.Pd., Pembimbing II. Sulton Dedi Wijaya, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Di era digital, penggunaan Kecerdasan Buatan (AI) dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris semakin berkembang. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi persepsi mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris terhadap penggunaan Perplexity AI dalam pembelajaran menulis. Penelitian menggunakan metode deskriptif kuantitatif dengan desain survei. Instrumen berupa kuesioner skala Likert 4 poin yang terdiri dari 38 item, disebarikan kepada 76 mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa memiliki persepsi positif terhadap Perplexity AI (rata-rata keseluruhan  $M = 3.203$ ). Mahasiswa paling banyak menggunakan Perplexity AI untuk keperluan penelitian dan brainstorming (50%), dengan frekuensi 3-5 kali per minggu (42.1%) selama 15-30 menit per sesi (57.9%). Temuan paling signifikan adalah 90.8% mahasiswa telah secara mandiri mengembangkan prompt literacy, yaitu kesadaran bahwa prompt yang lebih jelas menghasilkan respons AI yang lebih baik. Selain itu, fitur transparansi sumber Perplexity AI menjadi faktor kepercayaan akademis utama bagi mahasiswa. Satu-satunya kekhawatiran signifikan adalah ketergantungan berlebih (73.7%). Implikasi penelitian ini mendukung integrasi Perplexity AI secara terstruktur dalam kurikulum pembelajaran menulis bahasa Inggris.

**Kata Kunci:** *Perplexity AI, Pembelajaran yang didukung AI, Persepsi mahasiswa.*

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Peace and blessings to our Prophet Muhammad SAW, who has granted us passage from the era of ignorance to the age of enlightenment. Furthermore, the researcher has a lot of individuals by his side who help and inspire him to accomplish this thesis by offering advice, information, and motivation. The researcher so wishes to express gratitude to the following individuals:

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The researcher acknowledges that this thesis is still far from flawless. Consequently, the researcher will be thrilled to embrace any helpful critiques and recommendations. Besides that, the researcher also hopes that this thesis will be useful for upcoming studies

Surabaya, July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2026

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Wj7,' followed by a horizontal line.

Virnanda Agustina Putri  
NIM. 20221111015

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