

Analysis of Indonesian spelling mistakes in student papers of elementary school teacher education study program

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ABSTRACT

Spelling errors are still often found in students' scientific papers, even though the use of proper spelling is essential to produce clear, standard, and easy-to-understand writing. This study aims to explain the types of spelling errors contained in two scientific papers of students of the Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD). This study uses a qualitative descriptive method. The research data was obtained from two student scientific papers that were analyzed based on the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI). The data collection technique is carried out by reading and taking notes, then the data is grouped according to the type of errors found. The results of this study show that there are 13 writing errors. These errors include the use of capital letters, the use of punctuation, and the use of foreign terms that are not italicized. The first paper has 8 errors, while the second paper has 5 errors. The most dominant mistakes are the use of foreign terms without italics and errors in the use of punctuation in words. The findings show that students' understanding of the rules for writing Indonesian spelling is still lacking and needs to be improved. Therefore, better precision is needed when writing scientific papers.



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INTRODUCTION

The ability to write properly and correctly is an important skill for a student, both to meet academic needs and in social life. Students who are able to write in a coherent manner and follow the rules of language will find it easier to do academic assignments, such as papers, articles, journals, and compile theses than students who cannot write in a coherent, logical manner, and do not understand the rules of language. In addition, the ability to write well and correctly will help in carrying out daily tasks. Writing is an indispensable skill. In this aspect, the author is able to develop independently, advance himself in terms of learning the Indonesian language. Writing skills must be supported by sufficient knowledge of the rules of grammar, especially the spelling of the Indonesian language. In addition, writing skills also need to be supported by knowledge of Indonesian grammar (Helda et al., 2023). Writing skills are important for students, both in completing academic tasks and in communicating with the community. Students must be able to write correctly and accurately because later they will write various scientific papers such as articles, papers, journals, and theses (Lilis Amaliah Rosdiana, 2020).

One of the important aspects of writing skills is the use of proper spelling. Spelling is a rule that describes or symbolizes the way words, sentences, and others are pronounced, and explains how the letters are separated or combined in a language. In addition, according to the one who explained that the rules of writing that describe language are related to how to write letters, the use of words, the writing of punctuation, and the use of elements from foreign languages are referred to as spelling. Regularity and clarity in sentence structure and spelling accuracy in a piece of writing can show ideas or thoughts that are structured and easy to understand. Clarity in conveying ideas in a writing makes it easier for readers to understand the content of the writing (Humaira & Firdaus, 2021) (Arum Sari et al., 2023) (Leksono, 2019). Spelling functions as a guideline in language writing, including the use of letters, word writing, punctuation, and absorption elements. The use of proper spelling can help the writer convey ideas clearly so that they are easy for readers to understand. On the other hand, spelling mistakes can reduce the clarity of the information conveyed in a piece of writing

Spelling errors are types of errors in written language that occur due to the use of letters, word writing, punctuation, or absorption elements that are not in accordance with the rules of Indonesian Spelling. Mistakes in writing letters can reduce the clarity of the message that is to be conveyed in a writing, therefore it is necessary to pay attention especially when writing scientific papers. According to spelling errors, it greatly affects the quality of a writing. So, it is necessary to analyze process errors that are carried out by paying attention to the mistakes made by someone who is learning, especially to the intended object, namely language. The impact of misspelling words in Indonesian in public spaces can vary. Mistakes in writing that occur in public places can have a bad impact on the person reading or hearing. A piece of writing that is complete in content does not necessarily mean that it is a good piece of writing. If there are many writing errors and do not pay attention to correct grammar, then the message in the writing cannot be conveyed clearly and accurately to the reader. Therefore, the correct use of spelling is very important, especially in writing scientific papers that demand accuracy and language proficiency. (Nurafiyani & Princess, 2023) (Ahmad Dahlan et al., 2019) (Talitha & Ferdianto, 2022) (Squirrelly & Stuttgart, 2026)

In writing scientific papers, the language used must be standard, precise, and in accordance with applicable rules. One of the guidelines used in writing Indonesian is the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI). The guidelines regulate the use of letters, word writing, punctuation, and absorption elements so that they can be a reference in producing good and correct scientific works.

Although students have learned the rules of the Indonesian language, spelling errors are still often found in various scientific works. These mistakes are generally in the form of improper use of capital letters, incorrect use of punctuation, writing words that are not in accordance with the rules, and the use of foreign terms that do not follow the applicable writing rules. These errors can reduce the quality of scientific work and cause the information conveyed to be less clear. Therefore, understanding spelling is important so that students are able to produce good, systematic, and in accordance with the rules of the Indonesian language.

Research on writing errors in scientific papers has been carried out a lot. found that the most common mistakes were the use of incorrect capital letters, the use of incorrect punctuation, and incorrect way of writing words. (Tussolekha, 2019) (Marselina et al., 2022) It also shows that there are still many spelling errors in students' scientific papers caused by their lack of understanding of the rules of the Indonesian language. In addition, it shows that most of the mistakes in the use of italics in foreign terms still occur frequently in scientific papers. The results of the study show that spelling errors are still a problem that is often found in writing student scientific papers. (Winata, 2019)

Based on these studies, the analysis of spelling errors in students' scientific papers still needs to be carried out to find out the forms of errors that appear in academic writing. Therefore, this study aims to describe the various types of Indonesian spelling errors contained in two scientific works of students of the Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD) based on the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI).

The results of this research are expected to be evaluation materials for students to pay more attention to the use of spelling in writing scientific papers. In addition, this research is expected to be a reference for lecturers in guiding students and a reference for future research related to the analysis of Indonesian spelling errors.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method. This method is used to describe and evaluate writing errors in Indonesian contained in scientific papers written by students. This research method aims to identify, classify and correct spelling errors contained in student papers without manipulating data. The focus of this research is to identify spelling errors based on the rules of the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI).

The subject of this research is a student paper of the Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD) of Mulawarman University which has been presented with the title Strategies and Techniques in Elementary Literacy Learning and Actual Problems of Education in Indonesia. The object of the research is all forms of spelling errors found in the two papers, including errors in the use of capital letters, errors in the use of punctuation, and errors in the use of foreign word terms that have not been italicized based on the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI).

The data collection technique is carried out by means of documentation, namely by collecting and reading the two scientific papers that are the source of information in this study. The data obtained is then written and grouped according to the type of spelling error identified. Data analysis is carried out in several steps, namely: 1) reading and understanding the content of the scientific paper completely, 2) looking for writing errors in the paper, 3) dividing the errors based on their type, and 4) explaining the results of the analysis in accordance with the rules in the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI) (Serungke, 2023).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study uses qualitative description and documentation methods to identify spelling errors contained in the writing of a paper entitled Strategies and Techniques in Elementary Literature Learning with a course entitled Indonesian Literature in Elementary and Actual Education Problems in Indonesia with a course entitled Introduction to Education. The researcher collected data and read the text repeatedly to analyze and determine sentences that showed signs of spelling errors based on the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI). The data obtained from this study is classified based on the type of spelling error and is displayed in the form of a table for ease of reading. The use of misspelling in spelling writing often occurs due to students' inaccuracy during the writing process. The following is a presentation of the data obtained by the researcher from the data on spelling errors based on the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI) which has been grouped based on the type of writing errors.

Table 1 Spelling Mistakes on Paper 1

Yes	Types of Spelling Mistakes	Data	Repairs	Remarks
1	Misuse of capital letters	Factor factor	Factor Factor	It should be capitalized at the beginning of the second word according to the correct capitalization rules.
2	Misuse of capital letters	Influencing Factors	Influencing Factors	The word (which) in the middle of the sentence title should be written in lowercase letters.
3	Misuse of letters in foreign terms	Project- Based Learning	<i>Project- Based Learning</i>	Terms that are entirely of English origin and have not been absorbed must be written in italics.
4	Misuse of letters in foreign terms	role- playing dan storytelling	<i>role- playing dan storytelling</i>	Terms that are entirely of English origin and have not been absorbed must be written in italics.
5	Misuse of letters in foreign terms	Games	<i>Games</i>	Terms that are entirely of English origin and have not been absorbed must be written in italics.
6	Misuse of letters in foreign terms	or podcasts about literature	or <i>podcasts</i> about literature	Terms that are entirely of English origin and have not been absorbed must be written in italics.
7	Misuse of punctuation	Compiled by:	Compiled by:	Colon punctuation should not be preceded by a space, spaces are only placed after colons.
8	Misuse of capital letters	Learning Strategies and Techniques in Literature	Learning Strategies and Techniques in Literature	The conjunction word "and" must be written in lowercase letters entirely.

Analysis of spelling errors based on PUEBI rules:

1. Misuse of capital letters in the word "Factors"
 The data found was a mistake in the use of capital letters in the heading "Factors". The writing should be "Factors" because the two elements of the reword in the title begin with capital letters. According to PUEBI, every important word element in the title is written in capital letters, except for certain task words. Therefore, the writing of "Factors" is not in accordance with the rules for the use of capital letters in the title.
2. Misuse of capital letters in the word "Yang"
 The data found was a capitalization error in the word "Yang" in the title. The correct writing is "yang" because it is a task word that is in the middle of the title. According to PUEBI, task words such as and, which, for, to, and from are written in lowercase letters when they are not located at the beginning of the title. Therefore, the writing of "Yang" in the middle of the title is not in accordance with the rules of PUEBI.
3. Misuse of letters in the foreign term "*Project-Based Learning*"
 The data found was the use of the foreign term "Project-Based Learning" which was not italicized. The term comes from English and has not been absorbed into Indonesian. According to PUEBI, foreign words or expressions that have not been absorbed must be written in italics. Therefore, correct writing is *Project-Based Learning*.
4. Misuse of letters in the foreign terms "*role-playing*" and "*storytelling*"
 The data found were the use of foreign terms "role-playing" and "storytelling" that were not italicized. These two terms are English terms that have not yet become the standard vocabulary of the Indonesian language. According to PUEBI, foreign terms that have not been absorbed must be written in italics. Therefore, correct writing is *role-playing* and *storytelling*.
5. Misuse of letters in the foreign term "*Game*"
 The data found is the use of the word "Game" which has not been absorbed into the Indonesian language as a standard. According to PUEBI, foreign terms that have not been absorbed must be written in italics. Therefore, the correct writing is *Games*.
6. Misuse of letters in the foreign term "*podcast*"
 The data found was the use of the word "podcast" that was not italicized. The word comes from English and is used as a foreign term in the text. According to PUEBI, foreign terms that have not been absorbed must be written in italics. Therefore, the correct writing is a *podcast*.
7. Misuse of punctuation in the phrase "Composed By:"
 The data found was an error in the use of colons in the phrase "Composed By:". There is a space before the colon mark, even though according to PUEBI the colon is not preceded by a space and is only given a space after it. Therefore, the correct writing is "Compiled By:".
8. Misuse of capital letters in the word "And"
 The data found was a capital letter misuse in the word "And" in the title. The word "and" is a connecting word or conjunction that is in the middle of the title so it must be written in lowercase letters. According to PUEBI, the task word in the title is written in lowercase letters unless it is at the beginning of the title. Therefore, the correct writing is "Learning Strategies and Techniques in Literature".

Table 2 Spelling Mistakes in Paper 2

Yes	Types of Spelling Mistakes	Data	Repairs	Remarks
1	Misuse of punctuation	Nurdiyah Kurniati S.Pd, M.Pd.	Nurdiyah Kurniati, S.Pd., M.Pd.	There is an error in the use of commas in academic degrees.
2	Misuse of punctuation	M.Pd. . As a Teaching Lecturer	M.Pd. as a teaching lecturer	A mistake in using double period punctuation.
3	Misuse of punctuation	area. (Muttaqin, 2018).	area (Muttaqin, 2018).	There is an incorrect placement of punctuation marks.

4	Misuse of capital letters	inclusive education training to support students with special needs.	Inclusive education training to support students with special needs.	The first letter at the beginning of the details of the new stand-alone paragraph must be preceded by a capital letter.
5	Misuse of punctuation	Education In Indonesia: Problems And Solutions	Education In Indonesia: The Problem And The Solution	Colon punctuation should not be preceded by a space, spaces are only placed after colons.

Analysis of spelling errors based on PUEBI rules:

1. Mistake in the use of punctuation marks in the writing of the title "Nurdiyah Kurniati S.Pd, M.Pd."
 The data found was an error in the use of punctuation marks in the writing of the academic degree "Nurdiyah Kurniati S.Pd, M.Pd.". The writing is not in accordance with the PUEBI rules because the abbreviation of the title must be separated by a comma. The correct form is "Nurdiyah Kurniati, S.Pd., M.Pd.". This error indicates a lack of precision in the use of punctuation in academic degree writing.
2. A misuse of punctuation in the sentence "M.Pd. . as a teaching lecturer"
 The data found was an error in the use of double periods in the sentence "M.Pd. . as a teaching lecturer". The writing is not in accordance with the PUEBI rules because there are two dots used sequentially. Only one period should be used so that it becomes "M.Pd. as a teaching lecturer". This error can interfere with the neatness and accuracy of scientific paper writing
3. Misuse of punctuation marks in the sentence "the area. (Muttaqin, 2018)."
 The data found was an error in the use of periods before citation. The writing is not in accordance with the rules of scientific writing because the period should be placed after the citation if the citation is part of the sentence. A more appropriate form would be "the area (Muttaqin, 2018)." This error indicates an inaccuracy in the placement of punctuation in the source citation.
4. Misuse of capital letters in the word "training"
 The data found is a capitalization error at the beginning of a paragraph or a new detail. The words "inclusive educational training to support students with special needs." should be written "Inclusive educational training to support students with special needs." because it is at the beginning of the sentence. According to PUEBI, capital letters are used as the first letter at the beginning of a sentence. Therefore, the use of lowercase letters at the beginning of the sentence is not in accordance with the rules of PUEBI.
5. Mistake in the use of punctuation in the title "Education In Indonesia: Problems And Solutions"
 The data found was an error in the use of colons in the title "Education In Indonesia: Problems And Solutions". There is a space before the colon mark, whereas according to PUEBI the colon should not be preceded by a space and only given a space after it. Therefore, the correct writing is "Education In Indonesia: Problems And Solutions".

Based on the results of the analysis conducted on two student papers of the Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD), several types of spelling errors were found, including the use of capital letters, the use of letters in foreign terms, and the use of punctuation. From the two papers studied, 13 spelling errors were found. The first paper has 8 errors dominated by misuse of foreign terms, while the second paper has 5 errors dominated by misuse of punctuation. The findings show that students still do not fully understand the rules of writing in accordance with the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI).

The most common mistake found in the first paper is the use of foreign terms without using italics. These errors are found in the terms *Project-Based Learning*, *role-playing*, *storytelling*, *games*, and *podcasts*. According to PUEBI, words in foreign languages that have not been absorbed into

Indonesian must be written using italics. These findings are in line with research that shows that errors in the application of spelling rules, especially in the use of foreign language elements, are still often found in students' scientific works. This mistake shows that students still do not understand the rules for writing foreign terms in scientific papers. In addition, errors in the use of capital letters were also found in the two papers studied. The error is seen in the writing of the words "Yang" and "Dan" in the middle of the title, as well as the use of lowercase letters at the beginning of the sentence. According to PUEBI, task words such as the one in the middle of the title must be written in lowercase letters, while the beginning of the sentence must begin with a capital letter. This finding is in line with research that states that the misuse of capital letters is still a form of spelling error that is often found in student scientific papers. This mistake shows that students' understanding of the rules for the use of capital letters still needs to be improved. (Syukur et al., 2025) (Khoyriyah et al., 2024)

In the second paper, the most dominant mistake is the use of punctuation. These errors include the use of commas in the writing of titles, the use of double periods, the misplacement of periods in citations, and the use of colons preceded by spaces. According to PUEBI, the use of punctuation must be done appropriately so that the information conveyed can be clearly understood by readers. Misuse of punctuation can reduce the accuracy and readability of a scientific work. Therefore, the author needs to be more careful in editing before scientific papers are collected.

Based on the overall results of the research, it can be concluded that the spelling errors found in both papers are mostly due to students' lack of understanding of the PUEBI rules and lack of precision in the writing process. In addition, the lack of re-examination activities before the papers are collected is also a factor that causes the error to still appear. Therefore, students need to improve their understanding of the rules of Indonesian spelling and get used to re-checking the written work that has been made so that similar mistakes can be minimized.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of the scientific work of students of the Elementary School Teacher Education Study Program (PGSD) that has been researched, various types of spelling errors were found which include the use of capital letters, the use of letters in foreign terms, and the use of punctuation. From the two papers examined, 13 spelling errors were found, consisting of 8 errors in the first paper and 5 errors in the second paper. The most dominant mistake in the first paper was the use of foreign terms without italics, while in the second paper it was dominated by the misuse of punctuation.

The results of the study show that there are still students who do not fully understand the application of the rules of the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI) in writing scientific papers. The errors found are not only related to the use of capital letters and punctuation, but also to the writing of foreign terms that have not been absorbed into the Indonesian language. This condition shows that accuracy in writing and understanding of spelling rules still need to be improved.

Based on the results of the analysis, the factors that cause the appearance of spelling errors include the lack of students' understanding of the rules of PUEBI, lack of precision in the writing process, and lack of editing and re-examination activities before scientific papers are collected. Therefore, students need to get used to learning and applying the correct spelling rules of Indonesian, re-checking the manuscript that has been written, and utilizing various reference sources on the use of correct language spelling to reduce the occurrence of spelling errors in scientific works.

This research was conducted to minimize spelling errors in writing scientific papers. One of the solutions is to increase students' understanding of the General Guidelines for Indonesian Spelling (PUEBI). Writers need to get used to re-checking before scientific papers are collected so that writing errors can be corrected from the beginning. The use of the online PUEBI application can help improve accuracy in writing words and punctuation. By implementing these various solutions, it is hoped that the quality of writing scientific papers can improve and be in accordance with the rules of good and correct Indonesian language.

With increasing understanding and accuracy in writing, it is hoped that the quality of students' scientific work can be better, more in accordance with the applicable Indonesian language rules, and able to convey ideas clearly and effectively to readers.

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