

## **The Increase of Writing Ability through the Development of Learning Media**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This research is entitled: Development of Learning Media Using Lectora Software to Improve Writing Ability (Schreibfertigkeit). This study uses a development research approach using the ADDIE model conducted in the German Language Education Program in State University Medan. The object of this research is the development of A2 level of German writing ability (Schreibfertigkeit) using Lectora media software. Data collection techniques were carried out through observation, interviews and giving questionnaires and tests, while data analysis techniques were carried out using qualitative descriptive analysis, and testing of the application of media conducted in large groups. The purpose of this development research is to improve German grammar skills for students in writing using software Lectora. The results of this research will be German grammar learning media using lectora software. The instruments used are: a) learning media validation instruments, b) tests and assessment criteria, c) questionnaires and d) observations.

**Keywords:** Development, Grammatical, Level A2, Lectora software

### **Introduction**

In learning foreign languages, especially German, there are four competencies that German learners must have, namely listening (Hoerverstehen), speaking (Sprechfertigkeit), reading (Leseverstehen) and writing (Schreibfertigkeit). The four language skills cannot be separated from each other. In learning foreign languages, especially German, many difficulties are encountered such as German rules and grammar and German culture that must be learned through practice both orally and in writing. To train the language skills can be through media learning books, films, videos, applications and software.

Currently the use of information and communication technology is one of the popular alternative learning media because of its attractive and varied appearance so as to increase student learning interest. Along with the development of information technology that is very fast and marked by many software that can be used as innovative learning media. The development of technology and information must be utilized as well as possible by educators as an effort to improve the quality of teaching in the classroom. Without an interesting and innovative learning media in the teaching and learning process, the learning outcomes will not work optimally. One software that can be used as a learning medium in delivering material and compiling practice questions is Lectora. Lectora is one software that is very interesting, easy to use and has several types of exercises such as: right-wrong, multiple choice, multiple responses, fill in the balance, matching and so on. Lectora software can be used online or off-line not dependent on the existing internet network so that it can be used by educators in remote areas. Development of grammatical learning media level A2 using the help of Lectora Software is very important to be done so that students are more motivated to train themselves in improving their linguistic skills.

Based on the results of previous research data found that the basic competencies of students in mastering German grammar are still low with an average score of 2.5 from the score range 0 - 5 (Harahap : 2009). The results of other studies (Harahap: 2013) conducted on 60 students in the Unimed German Language Study Program

obtained data that 45% of 60 students showed good results in writing simple essays, while 55% of 60 students were competent students in writing simple essays is still low, there are many errors in the field of German grammar, there is no coherence between sentences and the limited vocabulary of students. Furthermore, the results of the data obtained (German Language Education Study Program, 20016) showed the level of graduation of the German Language Education Study Program students in taking the National Level Language Proficiency Test (ZiDS = Zertif für indonesische Deutschstudierende) was still low with an average score of 2.9 on aspects of German grammar.

To overcome the above problems, it is necessary to find a solution, namely by developing learning media in making examples of grammatical practice questions using the Lectora Software. Lectora software can be used as one of the ICT-based learning media that is very useful in delivering learning materials so that students do not feel bored during the learning process in the classroom. Therefore, the researcher was interested in researching on "Development of Grammatical Learning Media in German Niveau A2 Level Using Lectora Software to Improve Writing Ability (Schreibfertigkeit) Students of Unimed German Language Education Program".

### **Research purposes**

The purpose of this research is:

1. Describe the results of the development process of the German Grammatical learning media at the Niveau A2 level using the Lectora Software to improve writing skills (Schreibfertigkeit) students of the Unimed German Language Education Program.
2. Describe the results of the development of the German Niveau A2 Grammatical learning media using the Lectora Software to improve writing skills (Schreibfertigkeit) students of the Unimed German Language Education Program.

Benefits of research

The benefits of this study are:

1. Contributing to German language education and contributing to the development of learning media that is beneficial for students, students, lecturers, teachers (high school / vocational high school / MA) and other German speakers.
2. Students can practice German grammar skills by using lectora software as an effective and efficient learning media in the teaching and learning process.
3. Can be used as a reference for further research.

### **Literature Review**

#### **1. Understanding Development**

Sugiyono (2016: 297) explained that development is to produce a definite product and test the benefits of the product. Furthermore Borg and Gall (in Sugiyono 2016: 28) explained that development is developing a product and validating it such as books, films, and software. From the expert opinion above it can be concluded that development is a process of developing a product and validating the effectiveness and efficiency of the product to be produced.

#### **2. Understanding Learning Media**

Latuhuru (1993) explains that learning media are materials, tools, or techniques used in teaching and learning activities so that communication interactions between teachers and students can be achieved. Furthermore Daryanto (2011) explained that learning media is a communication tool that is taught as a link between the sender and

the recipient of the message. From the expert opinion above it can be concluded that the learning media is a tool that helps teachers to deliver learning material so that the teaching and learning process runs effectively and efficiently.

### 3. Grammatical

Grammatical is a very complex German rules or grammar rules. The founder of Lectora Software was Timothy D. Loudermilk in Cincinnati, Ohio, United States in 1999. Software Lectora is an authoring tool that can facilitate instructors in creating ICT-based multimedia learning. With Lectora the instructor can deliver instructional material and practice questions interactively (Muhammad Mas'ud: 2012). Lectora can be used offline or online so students can use it anytime without being dependent on the internet network.

Lectora has several advantages over other e-learning authoring tools, namely:

- a) Lectora can be used to create interactive e-learning content websites.
- b) Lectora's features are very easy in making audio and learning videos.
- c) The Lectora display is quite complete.
- d) Lectora can be used offline or online.

Lectora also has weaknesses:

Lectora still needs support from other software such as Firefox 1.0 and above, Microsoft DirectX 9, Camtasia and Adobe Flash so that the Lectora can run optimally.

### 4. Preliminary studies

The results of previous studies relating to error analysis and character education are described as follows:

- a) Harahap (2009) states that the ability of students in German grammar is proven to increase through error analysis to determine Grammatical Cases in German sentences.
- b) Perdamean (2010) states, the application of the error analysis exercise pattern to form German sentences is proven to improve the mastery of German grammar students.

### 5. Niveau A2

Niveau A2 is the most basic level or beginner in German language skills organized by the Goethe Institute. The results of the certification exam held by the Goethe Institute apply and are accepted throughout the world and are recognized as a qualification by various countries and institutions of advanced education in many countries. Qualifications needed to complete A2 level certification:

- a) Understand short conversations in everyday situations, simple questions, and understand short messages.
- b) Summing up appropriate information from written messages, and general information.
- c) Mention and know the number, amount, time and price.
- d) Fill the form with complete personal data.
- e) Tell yourself in short writing.
- f) Introducing yourself and answering questions that concern yourself.
- g) Creating questions and requests as well as responding to them.
- h) Research Roadmap

### 6. Thinking Framework

Learning media is very important in language learning, especially grammatical. Increasing the grammatical ability of German students' language can be achieved through the development of learning media so that learning indicators can be achieved.

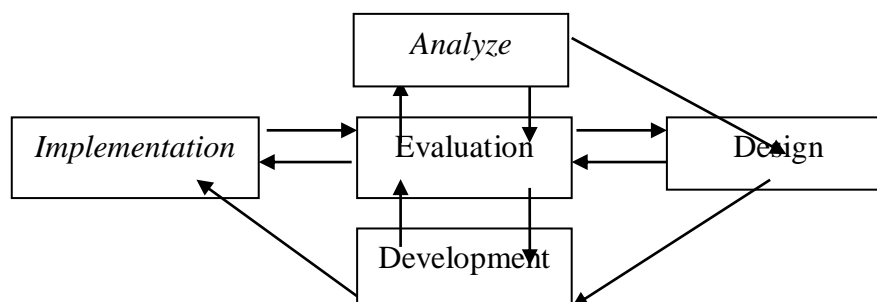
The development of German grammatical learning media using Lectora Software is one of the ways so that the teaching and learning process can run well and efficiently and can increase students' interest and motivation in learning German grammatics. Grammatical learning media in German using Software Lectora will be validated and tested in the Unimed German Language Study Program.

This study aims to improve the ability of students in grammatical mastery of German level A2 level which has an impact on improving the ability to write (*schreibfertigkeit*) students. With the increasing grammatical mastery of German, students will not make mistakes in writing letters or essays while taking ZiDS examinations. This research will produce grammatical learning media at niveau A2 level which is packaged in Lectora Software.

## **Methods**

### **Development Research Model**

This research model uses the ADDIE development model reference developed by Reiser and Mollenda consisting of: i) analysis, ii) designing, iii) development, iv) Implementation, and v) evaluation. In this study an expert test and revision will be conducted before the learning media is given to students. The purpose of the evaluation is to find out whether the purpose of developing learning media has been achieved or has been in accordance with needs. For more details can be seen in Figure 1 below:



Gambar 1. The Model Step ADDIE (Sumber Anglada 2007)

### **Research sites**

This research was carried out in the German Language Education Study Program, Medan State University.

### **Research Steps**

1. This study uses Modell ADDIE theory which consists of five phases, namel: Analysis (Analyze)  
At this stage the researcher conducts a needs analysis, identifies the problem, by giving a questionnaire to students which aims to determine the level of student interest in using Lecktora Software.
2. Design  
At this stage the researchers discussed German grammaticalal learning media from the Studio D A2 book with the help of Lecktora Software. The learning media that will be designed are: i) learning material, ii) practice questions, iii) answer keys, and iv) scores. The types of questions to be compiled are multifel choise, multiple responses, fill in the scores, and matching with the time limit and the final score obtained in solving these problems.

3. Development

At this stage of development the researcher includes teaching materials, practice questions, answer keys and scores into Lecktora Software. The development of learning media and practice questions must be tested by the expert team of learning media and research instruments first and then revised to achieve the objectives of this study.

4. Implementation

At this stage the German grammatical learning media that has been installed into the Lecktora Software is tested directly by the media. The trial was carried out in two stages, namely: i) the first stage of validity testing by learning material experts, learning media experts and learning design experts. Expert test aims to find out whether the learning media that has been produced is in accordance with the achievement of the desired learning objectives, ii) the second stage of testing the practicality of small and large groups. Revisions are made if there are still inputs and suggestions from the expert team that must be improved so that the research objectives can be achieved. The results of this trial are used to carry out the evaluation phase.

5. Evaluation

The last phase is an evaluation which in this phase learning media is evaluated by a team of experts to assess whether the German grammatical learning media that has been prepared using the Lecktora Software is valid, effective and practical. If the results are said to be valid, effective and practical, the learning media can be applied to the learning process in the classroom or outside the classroom.

Figure 2. Research Flow Chart for the Development of German Grammatical Learning Media at Level A2 Using Lectora Software to Improve Writing Ability (Schreibfertigkeit) Students of the Unimed German Language Study Program.

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