

MENDELEY APPLICATION TRAINING TO IMPROVE STUDENT FINAL ASSIGNMENT WRITING

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Abstract

Every student who has entered the final study period must complete the final project/thesis as a graduation requirement. In order to produce quality and responsible writing, students must have the provision of knowledge and how to find, find and determine the correct references and write good citations to avoid plagiarism in thesis writing. The Mendeley application can assist in managing reference sources and writing citations, which can synchronize with the references menu in Microsoft Word. So the PKM team of the Mandarin Language Education Study Program, FKIP UNTAN, provided training on using the Mendeley Application to 20 semester VII students taking thesis writing. Based on the results of the training activities, it can see that 95% of the students who attended the training were able to master the Mendeley application. The obstacle faced in this training was the problem of student laptop devices still using a low version of the Windows operating system, resulting in students needing help installing the Mendeley application. However, this obstacle can be handled thanks to the direction and guidance of the lecturer in the PKM Team. The Mendeley application is relatively easy to learn, understand, and operate, so students will use the Mendeley application as support in completing their final project/thesis.

Keywords: Mendeley Applications, Thesis, References

INTRODUCTION

Entering the final period of study, every student must face a final assignment that they must complete. Students began to occupy themselves with the research agenda while asking for the lecturer's guidance in preparing the final project. What is meant by the final task here is the thesis. The thesis is a term used in Indonesia to illustrate a scientific paper in the form of an explanation of the results of undergraduate research (S-1), which discusses a problem or phenomenon in a particular field of science using applicable principles (Ismail, 2019). The thesis is a scientific essay in the form of a descriptive description that describes conditions and explains concepts (Musfah, 2016).

According to the KBBI thesis is a scientific essay that students must write as part of the final requirements of their academic education. This was emphasized again by Eko Sugiarto, that a thesis is one of the requirements that must meet as part of obtaining a degree at the bachelor's level (S-1) or bachelor's degree. The thesis is compiled in the form of a report on the

research carried out by the student concerned with the help of a supervisor (Sugiarto, 2015).

well as possible. However, compiling a thesis is a challenging thing for students. Starting from determining the title, writing the proposal, and carrying out the research to the report stage requires much effort and hard work. Even the completed thesis must pass the examination process in the thesis session. After that, the results of the revised thesis publishing in a national or international journal. Based on academic guidelines and manual procedures for the thesis writing process, students must make a research report as a thesis and publish it as an article/journal.

In order to smoothen the steps to obtain a bachelor's degree and graduate from college, students must strive to complete their thesis. Therefore, apart from giving full attention to the implementation of the research carried out, students must also pay attention to the procedures for preparing research reports, both the provisions for the preparation of the thesis and the preparation of articles to produce quality writing worthy of publication because one indication of quality writing is related to elements of plagiarism, which often occurs due to the author's lack of knowledge about citation techniques or how to do citations (Baiq et al., 2021).

In writing a thesis, students must look for information, theories, and concepts related to the research topic working. This source of information can be in the form of electronic or non-electronic sources, for example, books, articles in journals, articles in magazines, scientific projects, or information from certain websites (Muhammad, 2019). Due to the lack of knowledge about proper sources of access, students also need help finding references that suit their research needs.

scientific work need to be more thorough in including citations and experiencing difficulties in managing reference sources (Perdana, 2020). Based on field observations conducted by Nurjannah et al., final-year students who are still pursuing their thesis writing experience difficulties in writing citations and lists of references correctly because they are too complicated and time-consuming as well as the complexity of specific formats that must be followed (Laily et al., 2021). Citations are essential in supporting arguments and student research analysis (Sudirman et al., 2021). Presenting transparent sources of citations can avoid the risk of plagiarism in thesis writing.

In addition, it is not uncommon to find that in a student thesis, there are often references that are recorded/forgot to be recorded in the bibliography section. Various applications can be used to support the writing of scientific papers. One of them is the Mendeley application. According to (Aransyah et al., 2021), many writers have difficulty making a bibliography manually, and the Mendeley application is beneficial for writers in compiling a bibliography automatically. So students who use Mendeley's application no longer need to write sources and bibliography manually.

Mendeley Desktop is a platform that provides types of citations in writing standard scientific papers and scientific papers; what is true is that scientific work must include reference sources used in research as well as books, newspapers, magazines, and other sources (Maleha & Satria, 2021). In addition, Mendeley's desktop can help authors of scientific papers sort the names of authors and titles from sources taken both numbering and alphabetically.

The target of this community service is semester VII students of the Mandarin Language Education Study Program, FKIP, Tanjungpura University. The targeting for this PKM is based on the consideration that students are in the process of writing a research proposal and need

help finding suitable Chinese language references for their research needs. Students also stated that they still needed to understand how to prepare reports according to the format of the faculty guide, especially writing citations and making bibliographies more quickly and precisely.

Although the Mendeley application is available, which can make it easier for students to write their thesis, many students need to learn more about the Mendeley application. Based on the results of the interviews, 40% of students in semester VII of the Chinese Language Education Study Program needed to familiarize themselves with the Mendeley application. The remaining 60% of students who are familiar with the Mendeley application admit that they need to learn how to use the Mendeley application.

Given the importance of knowing the proper way to find, find and determine the correct and appropriate references to use in writing a thesis, including how to do good citations, the PKM Implementation Team for the Chinese Language Education Study Program, consisting of 4 lecturers from the Education Study Program Mandarin provides training in using the Mendeley Application to improve students' ability to complete their final project or thesis. Through this training, students will be able to produce research reports in the form of good theses and articles and be able to write citations and bibliographies appropriately and responsibly.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

Although the Mendeley application is available, which can make it easier, This community service activity (PKM) was held in July 2022 face-to-face in the Tanjungpura University FKIP meeting room. The service targets students in semester VII of the Mandarin Language Education Study Program. The stages of implementing the activities consist of the preparation, implementation, and evaluation stages.

In the preparatory stage, the lecturers, in collaboration with the students involved, made all the preparations for the implementation of the training activities, starting with data collection of students who could attend, ensuring the availability of each student's laptop, the readiness of the infrastructure used and preparing PowerPoint material on the Mendeley application that would be introduced.

In the implementation stage, the resource person delivered material about the Mendeley application and guided how to install and practice using the Mendeley application—submission of material through PowerPoint presentation. When practicing using the application, students follow the steps guided by the resource person practicing directly on their laptops. Besides that, three lecturers still accompany and help students who experience problems.

In the evaluation stage, the PKM team distributed a questionnaire in the form of a Google form to get feedback and responses from students regarding the implementation of training activities, both students' views on the results obtained from this training and students' views on the conditions of using the Mendeley application.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the implementation phase of the training, the activity was attended by 20 semester VII students of the Mandarin Language Education Study Program, FKIP UNTAN. The activity was carried out in two sessions, namely a material delivery session and a training session in the form of practice/guidance on application use. Before delivering material on the Mendeley application, the resource person motivated students to complete their thesis well and on time provided views on the importance of citations in thesis writing, and reminded students to avoid plagiarism.

Next, enter the delivery of Mendeley application material using PowerPoint. The resource person begins by introducing what Mendeley is.



Figure 1. Submission of Mendeley Application material

The Mendeley application consists of Mendeley desktop and Mendeley web. Mendeley Desktop is a Mendeley application installed on desktops (Windows or MacOS) that functions to manage citations and references in manuscripts. This type of Mendeley can be used offline and allows data storage on a PC/Laptop hard drive. Mendeley Desktop has a plug-in that can be installed in Microsoft Word, which automatically manages citations and bibliographies. Meanwhile, Mendeley Web is a web server-based Mendeley platform. On Mendeley Web, you can edit profiles, manage collected references, and share them with colleagues via Groups (Wikipedia).

After introducing the theory and concepts of the Mendeley application, the resource persons entered into a training session, namely the practice of using the Mendeley application. The resource person introduced the steps to students to install the Mendeley application on a laptop. From the results of the PKM team's observations, only three student laptops had the Mendeley application installed before participating in this training; the rest directly installed the application at the training location.

The PKM team monitors and ensures that each student takes the given steps and successfully installs them onto their laptops. Of the 20 students, six people experienced problems with the installation is modifying. Accompanying lecturers directly provide guidance and help solve difficulties for students.

After ensuring all students had successfully installed the application, the resource person explained how to use the Mendeley application on a laptop. It begins with an introduction to

the buttons or menus found on the Mendeley desktop, which have their respective functions. The resource person also guides students to integrate Mendeley with Microsoft Word so that the Mendeley menu appears when they enter the references menu.

After the Mendeley application is integrated and ready to use, the resource person teaches students how to write citations. It begins by introducing several ways to find articles to cite. Students were guided to search/search Google Scholar to find the articles that needed to be included in the Mendeley desktop.

The resource person also teaches explicitly students to get articles with Mendeley Web which are then synchronized with Mendeley's desktop. Refers to is due to an update to the Mendeley desktop application, which no longer supports searching articles directly with the Mendeley desktop application such as Mendeley desktop version 1.94, which is connected to the internet, thus requiring desktop Mendeley users to search for articles to cited via the Mendeley desktop web.



Figure 2. The Lecturer Team provides guidance during a practice session



Figure 3. Lecturers and students and interacting when installing or using the Mendeley

Application shows that students are very enthusiastic about participating in the training and seriously listening to the material presented by the speakers. Likewise, data from the results of filling out the questionnaire, which is feedback from students, also shows that 95% of

students stated that after attending the training, they had mastered the Mendeley application. In the view of students, the Mendeley application is relatively easy to learn, understand, and operate, so 100% of students are willing to use the Mendeley application in writing their final student/thesis assignments. participating in the training.

CONCLUSION

Training on using the Mendeley application can be held smoothly. This training can provide knowledge that improves students' abilities in writing the final project/thesis. After students take part in training activities on using the Mendeley application, it can be concluded that students know how to find suitable reference sources, already have the ability to use the Mendeley application as a tool to make it easier to find references and write citations, students already can make bibliography automatically using Mendeley reference manager available in Microsoft Word.

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