CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

One of the factors influencing change in education is the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), according to Mahato (2022: 197), "Artificial Intelligence is a study of how human brain think, learn, decide, and work, when it tries to solve problems." The phenomenon of the use of AI in education has become a highlight, including in writing English essay. AI offers innovative solutions to help students find the material and provide corrections or feedback on their English essays. There are many AI tools that can help students when writing English essays, for example ChatGPT, AI Writer, and Claud AI. This type of AI is very easy to use, students only need to type what they need and AI will provide answers directly. In addition, there are many types of AI such as Grammarly and Quillbot, both of which are useful for helping students detect errors in writing and suggest how to write the correct sentence structure.

Essay writing is an important skill that students need, especially in learning English. As stated by Ario (2020: 8) that an essay is a short piece of writing that presents a topic from the author's point of view. English essays mainly highlight the author's personal thoughts or opinions on a particular subject or event and are written in English. It involves creating a well-organized piece of writing that clearly expresses ideas, with correct grammar and structure.

However, it is not certain whether AI really helps students in writing English essays because of the many difficulties in writing. Writing essays in English can be difficult for students because they need to focus on language skills and organizing ideas. Moreover, students often struggle to find relevant ideas and information through AI, leading to confusion and frustration when the results are not accurate to the required topic.

In addition, the issue of plagiarism where students make quotes or information without citing the source is also a problem in the use of AI in writing English essays. Since AI can generate text based on databases and previous sources, it is possible that data may be presented without clear citation of its sources. As a result, students unknowingly commit plagiarism, which can have serious consequences for the integrity of their work and academic reputation.

Another challenge that students often experience when using AI in writing English essay is an unstable internet connection. Poor internet connection can hinder students' ability to access AI tools or retrieve relevant information in their English essay writing process. This becomes very frustrating for students when relying on AI for timely assistance in writing. Furthermore, slow internet speeds can cause AI responses to take longer to generate, which affects the efficiency of the writing process. As a result, students may find it difficult to get the full benefits of AI technology when faced with this problem in writing English essays.

The use of AI in helping students is a concern, because it is hoped that AI can really help students when writing English essays. Students' interaction with AI while writing English essays can be the answer to improve their writing skills. Based on their experience in using AI, students will have their own perceptions of AI itself. The perception is important to know to determine if AI could be a possible tool for students to help them in writing.

Therefore, the researcher is interested in analyzing the perception of English language education study program students regarding the use of AI with the research title "Analyzing Students' Perception on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Writing English Essays at Islamic University of Indragiri."

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the research background above, the following problems were identified:

1. The emergence of plagiarism issues due to the use of AI to copy other people's work in writing English essays.
2. Inaccurate information from AI in writing English essays.
3. Unstable Internet connection when using AI in writing English essays.

C. Limitation of the Problem

In this research, the researcher tried to focus on the analyzing students' perception on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in writing English essays for 4th, 6th, and 8th semesters students of the English language education study program at Islamic University of Indragiri.

D. Research Questions

Based on the background of the research that has been explained above, the research question is formulated as follows:

1. How is students' perception on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Writing English Essays at Islamic University of Indragiri?

E. Objective of the Research

Based on the research questions above the researcher determine objective of the research, which are:

1. To identify students' perception on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in writing English essays at Islamic University of Indragiri.

F. Significances of the Research

1. For students, the researcher hopes that this research will help students improve their understanding of how AI can help them develop their writing skills in English essay writing.

2. For future researchers, the researcher hopes that this research can be a source or reference in similar research on the use of AI in writing English essays.

G. Definition of the Key Term

1. Students' Perception

According to Choiriah (2022: 6), "Perception is described as the process by which people interpret and arrange their sensory perceptions to give meaning or impressions to their surroundings." In this research, this

variable will function as a dependent variable which will be analyzed as a result or phenomenon in this research.

2. Artificial Intelligence

Eriana & Zain (2023: 1) stated that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science that aims to develop systems and machines that are able to learn from data, recognize patterns, and make intelligent decisions by involving the use of algorithms and mathematical models. In this research, this variable will function as an independent variable or factor that is tested to see its influence on the writing process and perception.

3. English Essay Writing

According to Imastuti, Sujoko, & Suparno (2014: 30), "Writing ability is capacity of someone to produce written message from words, into sentences, into text, into coherence whole where the readers can understand the meaning." According to Ario (2020: 8), "An essay is a prose composition that discusses a problem briefly from the author's personal perspective. The focus of an essay is on a person's perspective on an object or event." Writing English Essays refers to students' ability to compose essays in English, which involves the application of language skills such as organizing ideas, developing arguments, and using proper grammar. In this research, these variables serve as the research context and processes influenced by the use of AI.