IMPROVING STUDENTS' TOEFL SCORE BY USING GENIUS SOFTWARE

(a case study in FTIK faculty in UBP Karawang)

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ABSTRACT

TOEFL is a standardised test that measures your English skills, and how well you can use English in an academic setting. Therefore, TOEFL scores are often used in the university admission process.. The purpose of this research are to find out TOEFL test score using Genius software able to increase TOEFL score and to find out wheter Genius software is effective in increasing the TOEFL Score. This research used qualitative descriptive in conducting the research, a case study used to describe the effectivity and to reach TOEFL score based on the standard Analysis of the improvement of TOEFL Value by using data selection between the pretest and post test scores (Gain). Seeing the significance in the increase in TOEFL scores that occur before and after learning using Genius TOEFL using N-Gain data From the results of the comparison test the average initial and final ability of the TOEFL students, where the average pretest score is 360.56 and the post-test score is 8422.69. the data for the pretest and posttest scores were sig. 0.002 <0.05 by using SPSS Software , the data are not normally distributed It can be concluded that students' final TOEFL ability is different the sig value is obtained. 0.000 <0.05. Thus, it can be concluded that there are differences in students' initial and final TOEFL abilities. So that learning using the TOEFL Genius is effective in increasing students' TOEFL abilities.

Key words: *TOEFL, TOEFL score, Genius Software*

INTRODUCTION

TOEFL is a standardised test that measures your English skills, and how well you can use English in an academic setting. Therefore, TOEFL scores are often used in the university admission process. However, the test is useful for other purposes as well: going to high school abroad, going to a short course or an exchange programme, and even applying for a student visa.

There are two types of TOEFL Tests that you can take: The TOEFL iBT® test, that you take online and the revised TOEFL® Paper-delivered Test, a pen and paper exam. There are more centres for TOEFL iBT® then for revised TOEFL® PBT around the world. The paper test is only available in areas where testing via the internet is not possible.

Learning English in Indonesia is English as a foreign language that has been thought since elementary school. English as one of the language in the world, plays an important role in many various fields. Many people try to do their best to master this language so they can share the information and can communicate each other.

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

516

The worldwide demands English and it creates an enormous demand for quality of language teaching materials and resources. Being an international language, English is spoken in the most international event and it is used as the medium of the information on science, technology, and culture.

The teaching of English includes four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Speaking is one of the most difficult aspects for students to master. This is hardly surprising when one considers everything that is involved when speaking: ideas, what to say, language, how to use grammar and vocabulary, pronunciation as well as listening to and reacting to the person you are communicating with. Dealing with this complexity, speaking skill must be practiced since elementary level because it is the golden age to acquire new things more easily (Ahbab, 2010:7).

The Test of English as a Foreign Language, or TOEFL, is a test which measures people's English language skills to see if they are good enough to take a course at university or graduate school in English-speaking countries. It is for people whose native language is not English but wish to study in an international University. It measures how well a person uses listening, reading, speaking and writing skills to perform academic tasks. This test is accepted by more than 10 000 colleges, universities, and agencies in more than 150 countries; which means it is the most widely recognized English test in the world.

The format of the TOEFL test has been changed three times. The first was the PBT (paper-based TOEFL test). It tests listening, reading and grammar skills with a perfect score being 677. Some centers where computers are not available still offer this format. The second format is the CBT (computer-based TOEFL test). People are each provided with a computer to take the test. A writing section was added as well as the three sections. The level of listening and grammar skills are automatically changed depending on a person's English level. The third change is the iBT (Internet-based test) that is being brought in around the world which measures listening, speaking, reading and writing.

There are three procedures that people are following to take the test. First it is decided where and when you are going to take the test because the format of the test could be either iBT or CBT depending on location. People need to register 2–3 months in advance to get a place. Second is registration in person, online, by phone, or through email. Online registration is most common and payment will be required to complete the registration. The cost changes depending on what kind of exam is taken.

As more universities and colleges want a TOEFL more people are wanting to do the test. In Korea in 2010, nearly 115,000 people took the test to demonstrate their ability in English. This was 20% of the total for people doing the test. It is considered as one of the ways for middle or high school students to apply for the high ranked domestic universities. By studying at such an advanced level, it could help to improve their English skills to get high scores in other English exams.

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

517

METHOD

This research used qualitative descriptive in conducting the research, a case study used to describe the effectivity and to reach TOEFL score based on the standard

a. Population & sample

In conducting the reasearch in FTIK Faculty , the writer took population 198 and sample in FTIK Faculty the total sample are 97.

b. Data analysis

In order to gain and to find out the information , the writer used :

a. Documentation TOEFL SCORE (pre and post)

The pretest is used to set the score before using Genius Software application. Mean while, after several times using teaching and learning using genius TOEFL the writer took the sample of the post test.

Research problem

The problem of this research can be described as follows:

1. Can Genius software application increase the TOEFL Score?
2. Is genius software effective in increasing the TOEFL Score?

Aim of the Research

There are two strong point of the research goals:

1. To find out TOEFL test score using Genius software able to increase TOEFL score
2. To find out wheter Genius software is effective in increasing the TOEFL Score

Literature review

TOEFL is a test that can shape your future. Imagine if you get a high score and enter your favorite university and get a school scholarship abroad. For this reason, it is very important to devote your time and resources and do your best to prepare for your TOEFL Test. In this section we have prepared some tips for passing the TOEFL test that can help you during the preparation process and also during the test.

TOEFL questions circulating on the internet from various well-known authors, such as the TOEFL version of Longman, Baron's, Cliff, Oxford, and others. If you want to buy the TOEFL ebook, purchases are also available online at the amazon.com site or on googleplay for Android-based mobile devices. TOEFL questions that are available for free download are usually PDF, docx, or doc versions but in the form of pirated files that do not have publication permission from the copyright holder. Most of the scanning files are converted to PDF format with sizes ranging from 20 MB - 100 MB, but not including audio listening files that have larger file sizes up to 300 MB. Downloading about TOEFL is provided by bloggers in the form of links that lead to shared hosting servers.

There should be important to note. Before downloading TOEFL questions, pay attention to the completeness available on TOEFL material needed to support the test, such as listening comprehension and discussion questions, structure and written expression questions and discussion, reading comprehension questions and discussion(hidayat, adi, 2019). Starting from learning methods to understand the form of tests, strategies or strategies tips on answering TOEFL questions, practice each strategy material, practice tests, assessment statistics on your learning progress, and audio listening. The lack of complete material needed, automatically your learning results will not be maximized. In fact, the TOEFL test is a difficult test level, especially to get a certificate with a score above 500. The complete material consists mainly skills: listening, structure and written expression, reading. As for Writting, usually the material is not too large. Because, of the three parts of the material above, you can already understand the grammatical elements tested on the TOEFL test, it's just that the application uses the writing test. In essence, all you have to do is practice writing in English by having a lot of vocabullary mastery and grammar maturity.

Genius Software (TOEFL)

Description

Listening Comprehension

Contains 21 Keys to Answering Listening Questions

Accompanied by a Pre Test Diagnosis to measure your mastery of the TOEFL material before starting to learn the keys. Accompanied by a Post Test to see the progress of the mastery of the listening keys that have been learned. Equipped with an audio sound question script. Equipped with a mini dictionary containing specific vocabulary according to the material / question that is currently being displayed. Each chord is equipped with direct exercises. Displays the number of correct, incorrect, and value answers.Equipped with emoticons according to the scores. Equipped with the notes menu, which will display the notes screen so you can write or make certain notes according to related material

Structure

Contains 60 Keys to Answering Structure Questions.

Accompanied by a Pre Test Diagnosis to measure your mastery of the TOEFL material before starting to learn the keys.

Accompanied by a Post Test to see the progress of the mastery of the listening keys that have been learned.

Each chord features hands-on exercises.

Equipped with Question Discussion after you click "Correction"

Displays the number of correct, incorrect, and value answers.

Equipped with emoticons according to the scores.

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

519

Equipped with the notes menu, which will display the notes screen so you can write or make certain notes according to related material.

Equipped with an Appendix according to the required material, which is also on the menu.

Reading Comprehension

Contains 13 Keys to Answering Reading Questions.

Accompanied by a Pre Test Diagnosis to measure your mastery of the TOEFL material before starting to learn the keys.

Accompanied by a Post Test to see the progress of the mastery of the listening keys that have been learned.

Each chord is equipped with direct exercises.

Displays the number of correct, incorrect, and value answers.

Equipped with emoticons according to the scores.

Equipped with a Chapter Problem Discussion by clicking on a particular Problem Chapter title in each material.

Equipped with Discussion of Questions and Answers on each key and question.

Equipped with the notes menu, which will display the notes screen so you can write or make certain notes according to related material.

Pre / Post Test

Pre Test as a diagnosis of your TOEFL mastery before starting to learn TOEFL keys.

Post Test to see the progress of mastery of the key material that has been studied.

Each question is equipped with a Mini Dictionary and Audio Script on listening.

Accompanied by the number of correct, incorrect, and value answers.

Accompanied by Notes as Your Notes.

Practice Test

Contains six TOEFL Practice Teste tests.

Each practice consists of three tests, namely Listening, Structure, and Reading.

Accompanied by the number of correct, incorrect, and value answers.

Set Notes as your Notes.

Complete a Score and Certificate after you complete the test.

Report cards

 Contains 3 report cards for each of your practice and test results, namely Material Sharpening, Pre / Post Test, and Practice.
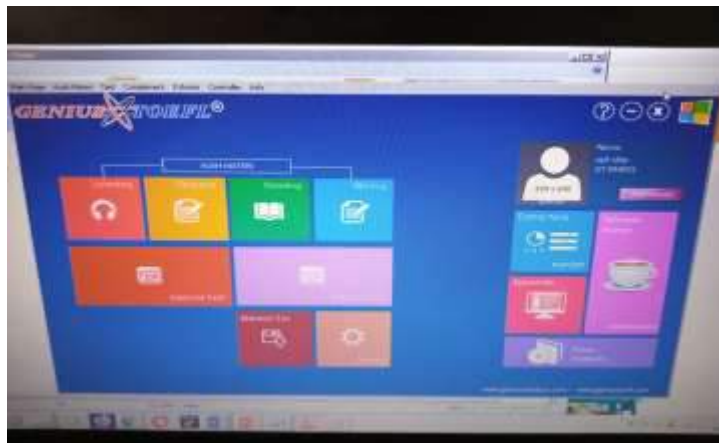
Report card contains a list of your answers and the answer key. D

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

520

Provides general statistics for wrong, correct, and value answers.

Intermezzo

Contains more than 100 Humor Interlude.

Each Humor will appear after you have completed the key material and exercises, resulting in a minimum score of 1 correct question.

Picture 1. GENIUS SOFTWARE

Genius Software (TOEFL) works

Published by Genius TOEFL to support the convenience of every student, student, employee, education practitioner, and the general public to learn to master the TOEFL material and practice and practice the TOEFL test.

This program contains material for the secret keys to answer TOEFL questions and the TOEFL Test Practice Simulation which is equipped with a variety of information needed by each prospective TOEFL test participant.

A breakthrough learning method that is easy, practical, and fast with just a "click".

Genius TOEFL develops practical science learning innovations by utilizing computer and internet technology. The learning process becomes easier and faster because it is supported by a programmed system based on appropriate learning methods for every student, student, and the general public.

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

521

Technique for Analyzing the Data

Analysis of the improvement of TOEFL Value by using data selection between the pretest and post test scores (Gain). Seeing the significance in the increase in TOEFL scores that occur before and after learning using Genius TOEFL using N-Gain data, the N-Gain formula is as follows:

Improvement Analysis

$$N - Gain = \frac{Skor_{Postest} - Skor_{Pretest}}{Skor_{Maksimal} - Skor_{Pretest}}$$

N-Gain data analysis was also carried out to see the quality of the improvement in students' TOEFL abilities. The criteria for the N-Gain score are:

N-Gain	NOTE
N-gain $\leq$ 0,30	Low
$0,30 < N - gain \leq 0,70$	Middle / Average
N-gain $>$ 0,70	High

Based on the research, it can be concluded

Data	Result
Pretest Average	360,56
Postest Average	422,69
N-Gain value Average	0,19

Based on the results of the analysis above, there is an increase in the TOEFL ability of students before and after being given learning with the TOEFL Genius.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

522

The pre-test was conducted to determine the students' initial TOEFL ability before learning was carried out using the Genius TOEFL . Post-test are carried out to determine the final TOEFL ability of students after learning using Genius TOEFL . The results of the pretest and posttest scores of students' TOEFL abilities are as follows

Table 1.
Descriptive Statistics of Pretest and Posttest Scores
Student TOEFL Ability

Test TIME	Score		Average	Deviation Standard
	Min	Max		
Pre-test	246	420	360,56	31,100
Pos-test	316	500	422,69	51,916

Based on the data in the table above, it can be seen that the students' initial and final TOEFL abilities are different, where the average pretest score is 360.56 and the post-test score is 8422.69. It can be concluded that students' final TOEFL ability is different. But to see whether the mean pretest and posttest scores have a significant difference, the researcher must test the mean similarity of the two parties. First, the normality test and the homogeneity of the variance test were carried out. The distribution normality test used the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. While the homogeneity test used the Levene test.

The results of the analysis using SPSS test the hypothesis whether there are differences in the ability of students' initial and final TOEFL scores. First, test the normality of the data with the normality test as follows

Tests of Normality

Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

523

	Kolmogorov-Smirnov[a]		
	Statistic	df	Sig.
PreTest	,119	97	**,002**
PostTes	,135	97	**,000**

Based on the results of the analysis, the data for the pretest and posttest scores were sig. 0.002 <0.05, the data are not normally distributed. Because the data are not normally distributed, the comparison test is non-parametric. The results of the comparison data analysis are as follows:

Test Statistics[a]

	Data
Mann-Whitney U	1689,500
Wilcoxon W	6442,500
Z	-7,715
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	**,000**

a. Grouping Variable: Tes

SUMMARY

From the results of the comparison test the average initial and final ability of the TOEFL students, the sig value is obtained. 0.000 <0.05. Thus, it can be concluded that there are differences in students' initial and final TOEFL abilities. So that learning using the TOEFL Genius is effective in increasing students' TOEFL abilities.

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Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

524

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Konferensi Nasional Penelitian dan Pengabdian (KNPP) Ke-1
Karawang, 25 Februari 2021
Universitas Buana Perjuangan Karawang

525