Senior High School Students' Perceptions of Using Canva for Their Descriptive Text Presentation

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Abstract *This study aims to analyse what are Senior High School Students' Perceptions of using Canva for Descriptive Text Presentation. Moreover, it also Examines how Canva helps Senior High School Students to support their Presentation for Structuring and Delivering Descriptive Text. The method in this study is a qualitative method. The data instruments were 20 open-ended questions in questionnaire filled by 33 students shared via Google form and 12 interview questions answered by top 10 students at State Senior High School in Gresik Jawa Timur) batch 2024/2025. The results of this study reveals that high school students perceive Canva as a highly effective tool for preparing and delivering descriptive text presentations. Additionally, students perceive Canva as a helpful tool for making and organizing presentations. It encourages creativity, confidence, and active participation while also supporting language skills, clear thinking, and audience awareness. These benefits highlight Canva's value in both learning and presentation tasks.*

Keywords: Student perception; Canva; Senior High School; Descriptive Text; Presentation.

Abstrak Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis persepsi siswa SMA tentang penggunaan Canva untuk presentasi teks deskriptif. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga meneliti bagaimana Canva membantu siswa SMA untuk mendukung presentasi mereka dalam menyusun dan menyampaikan teks deskriptif. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Instrumen data berupa 20 pertanyaan terbuka dalam kuesioner yang diisi oleh 33 siswa yang dibagikan melalui Google Form dan 12 pertanyaan wawancara yang dijawab oleh 10 siswa terbaik di SMA Negeri di Gresik, Jawa Timur, angkatan 2024/2025. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa siswa SMA menganggap Canva sebagai alat yang sangat efektif untuk mempersiapkan dan menyampaikan presentasi teks deskriptif. Selain itu, siswa menganggap Canva sebagai alat yang bermanfaat untuk membuat dan mengatur presentasi. Canva mendorong kreativitas, kepercayaan diri, dan partisipasi aktif, sekaligus mendukung keterampilan berbahasa, berpikir jernih, dan kesadaran audiens. Manfaat-manfaat ini menyoroti nilai Canva dalam pembelajaran dan tugas presentasi.

Kata Kunci: Persepsi siswa; Canva; SMA; Teks Deskriptif; Presentasi.

INTRODUCTION

English speaking capability is one of the important skills that must be mastered by high school students to face the challenges of the globalization era. Speaking skills not only help students to communicate effectively; but also, to increase their confidence in conveying their ideas (Agustina, et al, 2024). At the high school level, speaking learning is designed to equip students with communication skills, both in academic and professional contexts as a support for their future. One of the speaking skills is presentation skill. Presentation skills are crucial in language learning, especially in practicing speaking ability. Students with presentation skills have opportunities to articulate their thoughts clearly, organize their ideas systematically, and effectively engage with the audience (Robillos, 2022). These skills go beyond language practice; they encompass

confidence-building, the development of interpersonal communication, and the ability to express ideas persuasively. Therefore, by integrating presentations into language education, students are encouraged to use vocabulary and grammar in context, which helps solidify their language proficiency while simultaneously fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for real-world communication (Yan, et al, 2024).

In English classrooms, presentations are compulsory for speaking practice to make students acquire the language and its essential components (Al-Khresheh, 2024). Students who prepare to deliver a presentation will unconsciously learn about language components such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics in the process of producing presentation materials until the presentation is finished (Septiara, 2024). In this case, the use of a genre-based approach in learning about presentations is necessary, so students can enrich their knowledge with various genres in literature and also learn about the use of various text genres according to the rules of each selected text.

For instance, using descriptive text as a presentation topic can give students a detailed understanding of how to describe objects, places, conditions, and atmospheres. Hence, descriptive text would challenge students to create vivid, sensory-rich narratives that convey detailed and precise imagery (Hidayad, et al, 2023). This genre requires students to expand their vocabulary, practice the use of adjectives and adverbs, and also experiment with various sentence structures to depict objects, places, or people effectively (Fitria, 2024).

Furthermore, engaging with descriptive texts in an English-learning context is beneficial. It can enhance students' ability to convey their ideas clearly and in detail. It also enables them to master both the technical and expressive aspects of the language, which are vital for comprehensive communication skills (Chen, 2023). Despite their importance, presenting descriptive texts can be a daunting task for students, particularly those who still develop confidence in their English language skills (Wahyuningsih & Afandi, 2020). Some of the challenges for the students to do a presentation are organizing ideas logically, choosing appropriate and descriptive vocabulary, and also maintaining the attention of their audience throughout their presentation.

Unfortunately, traditional teaching approaches may not adequately address these challenges, leaving students underprepared to deliver engaging and coherent presentations. This underscores the need for more dynamic and supportive tools to help students overcome these hurdles. The integration of digital tools into education has transformed traditional teaching methods, providing innovative solutions to enhance student engagement and creativity (Bereczki & Kárpáti, 2021). These tools, which range from interactive applications to multimedia platforms, empower educators to deliver lessons in more engaging ways while enabling students to take a more active role in their learning (Haleem, et al, 2022). Digital tools also foster an environment of interactivity and adaptability, allowing learners to experiment with different approaches to content creation and comprehension (Kalyani, 2024). This shift toward technology-driven education would be followed by the growing potential of platforms like Canva to address specific learning needs.

Canva, a versatile and user-friendly visual design platform, has gained popularity not only in professional fields; but also, in educational contexts for its ability to transform traditional presentations into visually compelling narratives (Widiastuti, 2024). The platform offers an extensive library of customizable templates, graphic elements, and design tools that are intuitive even for beginners, making it highly accessible to students. By using Canva, students can focus on developing and refining the content of their presentations without being bogged down by

technical complexities, creating an engaging and supportive learning experience that aligns with the goals of modern education.

Moreover, one of the most significant benefits of using Canva in educational settings is its feature to nurture creativity among students. By providing a wide range of design elements, colour palettes, and layout options, Canva encourages learners to experiment and think outside the box in presenting their ideas. This process of creative exploration not only allows students to craft visually appealing presentations but also helps them to critically analyse how design and visual elements can enhance the effectiveness of their communication (Catubig, 2024). Such engagement fosters a deeper connection to the content, making the learning experience more immersive and impactful. Canva also offers unique opportunities for collaborative learning by enabling students to work together on shared projects and presentations. Through collaboration, learners can exchange ideas, negotiate content, and provide constructive feedback to one another, fostering an environment of peer learning and mutual support. This process not only enhances the quality of their presentations but also develops essential teamwork and communication skills. Collaborative projects using Canva promote a sense of community and shared responsibility, which are important for both personal and academic growth.

The use of Canva as a tool for presentations has the potential to significantly boost student engagement and confidence, as it enables them to produce professional-looking materials that reflect their effort and creativity (Retnowati, 2025). Seeing their ideas take a polished and visually attractive form can instil a sense of pride and achievement, motivating students to participate more actively in their learning. Moreover, the platform's ease of use allows students to focus on the substance of their presentations, building confidence in both their content and delivery, which are crucial for effective communication in language learning contexts. The incorporation of Canva into language learning presents a valuable opportunity to bridge technological competence with linguistic development. By using Canva to create and deliver presentations, students engage in a process that requires them to apply their language skills in practical, meaningful ways (Mafiroh, et al 2024). This hands-on approach not only reinforces their understanding of descriptive texts but also equips them with digital literacy skills, which are increasingly essential in today's technology-driven world. Such integration fosters a dual-layered learning experience that prepares students for both academic and professional challenges.

There have been vast studies regarding Canva's utilization in education. First, Jamaludin & Sedek (2023) examined Canva as a digital tool for effective student learning experience. They found that students preferred Canva over PowerPoint for comprehensive learning that visually appealing tools which were effective for note-taking and teaching. Second, Vargas, eta (2022) proved that Canva improved students' training action and promoted students' understanding and learning motivation. Furthermore, Ruswandi, et al (2024) reported that Project-Based Learning using Canva effectively enhanced students' writing achievement. Further, Fazira (2024) found that Students' understanding of narrative text increased after utilizing Canva as a learning media. Students' output also improved expressively. Moreover, Hardina, et al (2024) also Designed a Local Culture-based Canva Narratives to Enhance Reading Skills for Junior High School Students and discovered its effectiveness significantly. Azzahra & Azhira (2024) also unveiled that writing exposition text using the discovery learning model assisted with media Canva boosted students' output in writing Exposition Text. Andriyanti & Yunda (2023) qualitatively revealed that using Canva effectively enhanced students' writing skills and enabled engaging and enjoyable learning vibes of writing. Likewise, Hafidzin et al (2024) also tested the effectiveness of Canva and discovered enhanced writing Proficiency of the Students.

Specifically, for speaking skills, Bich & Nguyen (2024) affirmed that Canva had a beneficial impact in boosting students' speaking aptitude. In addition, students have illustrated great enthusiasm for the speaking exercises designed via Canva conducted in the classroom. Further, Puspita, et al (2023) also confirmed that Canva is effective for improving students' speaking skills. From some of those previous studies, there is uncovered research that focused on student's perception in using Canva as their presentation tools, specifically in senior high school students in Indonesia. Whereas, research on how students' perception in using Canva as their presentation tools in English class can enhance the students' performances in Presenting Descriptive text and it can contribute to educational literature.

Thus, based on the existing research gap and urgency, the researcher is interested in analysing Senior High School Students' Perceptions of Using Canva for Their Descriptive Text Presentation, that is English subject for senior high school students. Therefore, this study is entitled "Senior High School Students' Perceptions of Using Canva for Their Descriptive Text Presentation".

METHODS

This study is a qualitative study to explore students' perception about using Canva as their descriptive text presentation tool. The data were derived from 20 open-ended questionnaires answered by 33 senior high school students and semi-structured interview done by 10 high graders. The data were collected by sharing G-form online to 33 participants and conducting depth interviews with top ten of them to get deep insights about their perceptions. Moreover, the researcher extracted the questionnaire results from G-from and transcribed the interview recording. Then, the researcher conducted data familiarization, coding and theme identifications. Finally, the data were interpreted and explored.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of this study reveal that senior high school students generally have a positive perception of using Canva for their descriptive text presentations. They appreciate the platform's user-friendly interface, which allows them to easily design and customize their presentations with various templates, fonts, and graphics.

"The templates make it easier to edit. ..... It's easy to do assignments with Canva." **(S 02)**
"Good, Effortless and Amazing." **(S 05)**
"Easy to access and easy to use" **(S 18)**
"Because Canva is easy and simple for presentation" **(S 21)**

The questionnaire answers above proved that students perceived Canva as an easy tool and it was very helpful because it has numerous ready templates. For students, Canva is an attractive tool. Students (S 02) and (S 05) find Canva to be a user-friendly and exciting tool for completing assignments. The students' feedback highlights the usability of Canva as one of its strongest features. Specifically, they mention that Canva is "easy to use". Students describe Canva as "effortless" and "easy to use", indicating that the platform's interface is intuitive and user-friendly. Moreover, student also mentioned that Canva is simple to access. Students Perceive that Canva is easy to access, suggesting that the platform is readily available and can be easily navigated. Then, the templates provided by Canva make it easier for students to edit and customize their work, allowing them to focus on the content and design of their presentations.

Overall, the students' feedback suggests that Canva's usability features, such as its intuitive interface, easy access, and template-based editing, make it an ideal tool for creating presentations

and other visual content. These features enable students to create high-quality content without requiring extensive design experience or technical expertise. Thus, the students find Canva helpful in enhancing the visual appeal of their work, making it more engaging and effective in conveying their ideas (Dmitrenko, et al., 2024). This usability finding aligns with research conducted by Rahma et al. (2024), which also highlighted Canva's effectiveness in enhancing students' performance and confidence. Additionally, Jamaludin & Sedek (2023) examined students' perceptions of Canva and its usability. The accessibility and collaboration features of Canva enable students to work on their projects conveniently, both individually and in groups, and share their work with peers and teachers seamlessly (Pedroso, et al., 2023; Oudat & Othman, 2024).

The use of Canva provides several benefits, including enhanced creativity, organization, and presentation skills, as found by Anggraeni & Pentury (2022). Students can create visually appealing and well-structured content, which boosts their confidence in presenting their work. Students perceive significant academic benefits from using Canva, its ability to enhance their creativity, organization, and presentation skills. Students state that using Canva is beneficial for them. They can create good slides and can get better scores. Moreover, by utilizing Canva's diverse templates and design tools, students can create visually appealing and well-structured content, which boosts their confidence in presenting their work. Students revealed that boost confidence means that they could confidently stand in front of the class and present their presentation without fear because they could make their presentation slides more interesting and appealing, with clear and concise points without long texts. Moreover, it also helped students to organize and plan the slides, enabling students to effectively communicate their ideas and showcase their knowledge. After making presentation slides using Canva, students stated that they did not attach long text in the slides. They just added illustrations and points that illustrated their ideas. The slides were also well-structured and concise so they could explain clearly about their presentation. This result is followed by questionnaire answers:

"Canva makes me more confident because I have attractive visual aids. Good designs also help me explain more clearly in English." (S 03)

This student's statement highlights the multifaceted academic benefits of using Canva for creating descriptive text presentations. The visually appealing designs produced through Canva boost the student's confidence in presenting their work and facilitate clearer explanations in English.

However, students also face challenges, such as complex animations, organizing designs neatly, and limitations in the free version of Canva. One student also stated that using Canva is confusing because they could not make perfect presentation slides. It also takes a long time to neatly organize the elements.

"For me, I am confused about how to organize my slides. Making all elements look perfect is so hard and it will be so long" (S 05)

The data reveals a common struggle among users regarding the organization of their slides in Canva. One respondent expresses confusion when arranging various elements in their presentations, indicating that achieving a perfect and visually appealing layout is a challenging task. The user notes that the process of making all elements look perfect can be time-consuming. This statement showed the difficulties in organizing elements in the slides, indicating that users may have difficulties to use tools or features to align the slide components. This statement also supported by their interview answer below:

" I realized that the process of organizing the design elements to make it look perfect is the most time-consuming challenge." (S 05)

Both interviewees emphasize that the most significant challenge they faced was refining design elements to achieve a harmonious visual balance. This process, which involves iteratively adjusting various design components, proved to be the most time-consuming and difficult aspect of their design work. Achieving a visually appealing and balanced design requires careful consideration and precision, underscoring the complexity of creating effective visual content. The interviewees' experiences highlight the importance of attention to detail and the iterative process in design, as well as the potential difficulties that can arise when striving for aesthetic perfection.

Despite these difficulties, students find that practice and familiarity with the platform can mitigate these issues. Canva's offline capabilities also provide a sense of security and flexibility, allowing students to work on designs without a stable internet connection (Royani et al., 2024). Overall, students perceive that the use of Canva has transformed the way they learn and present descriptive text, making the process more engaging, interactive, and effective. Previous research by Catubig et al. (2024) explored how Canva provides a platform for creative expression, enabling students to explore their imagination and produce visually appealing presentations, posters, and infographics that combine text and visual elements. This creative freedom not only keeps students involved in the learning process but also fosters their enthusiasm and motivation, leading to a more enjoyable and productive educational experience (Hafidzin et al., 2024).

"Canva helps me organize my ideas for a descriptive text presentation by providing structured templates that guide the flow of my content. It helps me visually organize information into clear parts like the identification and the description about the object, place, or person." (S 15)

From the data above, student 15 finds that Canva supports their descriptive text presentations by providing structured templates that help organize their ideas and content. The platform enables them to visually divide information into clear sections, such as identification and description. Additionally, Canva exposes them to new vocabulary and phrases, enhancing their language skills. Most notably, Canva boosts their confidence in presenting in English by allowing them to organize and visualize their ideas effectively. Canva's structured templates and design elements play a crucial role in helping students organize their ideas and present their descriptive text in a clear and logical manner.

"Canva's templates helped me organize my ideas. I used a template with clear sections for intro, body, and conclusion." (Interviewee 05)

Interviewee 05 thinks Canva's templates help them organize their ideas and structure their presentation effectively. By utilizing a template with clear sections for introduction, body, and conclusion, the interviewee was able to logically arrange their content and ensure a cohesive flow of ideas. This experience highlights the value of Canva's templating feature in facilitating clear and organized communication, allowing users to focus on the content and delivery of their presentation rather than worrying about its structure. The template served as a useful framework, enabling the interviewee to present their ideas in a clear and concise manner.

"For sure. Canva's templates helped me structure my thoughts and ideas. I used a template with clear headings, and it made everything way more organized." (S 10)

"Yes, Canva's templates helped me organize my ideas. I used a template with clear sections for intro, body, and conclusion." (S 14)

The students' feedback showed the effectiveness of Canva's templates in helping them structuring and organizing their thoughts and ideas. Specifically, the templates provided clear headings and sections, such as introduction, body, and conclusion, which enabled the students to create well-organized and coherent presentations. By using these templates, the students were able to clarify their ideas and present them in a logical and systematic way, making their presentations more effective and engaging. This suggests that Canva's templates play a significant role in facilitating the students' creative process and helping them to communicate their ideas more clearly.

The platform offers a variety of pre-designed templates that cater to different presentation styles and content types, allowing students to select layouts that best fit their specific needs. By visually organizing information into distinct sections, such as headings, bullet points, and images, students can better convey their message and showcase their understanding of the subject matter. This visual organization not only aids in clarity but also helps students to prioritize information, ensuring that the most important points are highlighted effectively.

Additionally, Canva's positive impact on students' confidence in presenting in English is notable. The platform empowers them to express themselves more effectively and engage their audience with well-structured and visually appealing presentations (Andriyanti et al., 2023; Habibah, 2025). When students feel that their presentations are visually attractive and professionally crafted, they are more likely to approach their delivery with confidence.

"Indeed, using Canva can increase my confidence in presenting descriptive text. The many templates allow me to create presentations that are not only visually appealing but also convey my message effectively." (Interviewee 04)

Interviewee 04 attributes a significant boost in their confidence in presenting descriptive texts to the use of Canva. The platform's user-friendly design interface and extensive range of templates empowered them to create a presentation that was both visually engaging and effective in conveying their message. By leveraging Canva's features, the interviewee was able to produce a high-quality presentation that enhanced their self-assurance, allowing them to deliver their content with greater confidence and conviction. This experience highlights the positive impact of Canva on presentation skills and confidence, demonstrating how the platform's intuitive design and resources can support users in effectively communicating their ideas. This newfound assurance can significantly reduce anxiety associated with public speaking, allowing students to focus on their content and engage more meaningfully with their audience.

This finding is consistent with the results of a study conducted by Widiastuti (2024), which revealed significant increases in students' interest, engagement, and confidence while using Canva for teaching.

"Canva's visual elements and design features played a crucial role in helping me present descriptive texts more effectively." (Interviewee 03)

Interviewee 03 highlights the pivotal role of Canva's visual elements and design features in enhancing their presentation of descriptive texts. The platform's features enabled them to create engaging and informative content that effectively conveyed their message. By incorporating visual elements, the interviewee was able to better comprehend and communicate complex ideas, underscoring the value of visual aids in facilitating presentation. Canva's design capabilities

empowered the interviewee to present descriptive texts in a more impactful and meaningful way, demonstrating the platform's potential to support effective communication and learning.

Moreover, this statement from Interviewee 03 underscores the significant impact that Canva's visual tools have on the presentation of descriptive texts. The platform offers a variety of design features, such as customizable templates, graphics, and typography options, which allow users to create visually appealing and organized content. By leveraging these features, the interviewee was able to craft presentations that not only captured the audience's attention but also conveyed information in a clear and engaging manner.

Thus, the ability to create visually compelling presentations not only captures the attention of the audience but also fosters a more interactive learning environment. Students reported feeling more motivated to participate in discussions and share their ideas, knowing that they have the tools to present their thoughts clearly and attractively.

Moreover, Canva's features and design options have been instrumental in enhancing students' presentation skills, particularly in structuring and delivering descriptive text. The platform's intuitive design interface allows students to experiment with various design elements, such as color schemes, fonts, and images, which can enhance the overall aesthetic of their presentations. This creative flexibility encourages students to think critically about how to best represent their ideas visually, leading to more thoughtful and engaging presentations.

By leveraging Canva's features, students can produce high-quality presentations that capture their audience's attention and convey their ideas more persuasively (Pavlenko & Hrechukha, 2024). The combination of visual appeal and effective organization not only aids in communication but also enhances the overall learning experience. As students become more adept at using Canva, they develop valuable skills that extend beyond the classroom, including creativity, critical thinking, and effective communication. Ultimately, Canva serves as a powerful tool that supports students in mastering the art of presentation, enabling them to deliver descriptive texts with clarity, confidence, and creativity.

CONCLUSION

Based on research findings about senior high school students' perception on using Canva for their descriptive text presentation, senior high school students hold a highly positive view of Canva as a tool for creating English presentations, particularly descriptive texts. They find its user-friendly, diverse templates, and design elements invaluable for enhancing the visual appeal and organization of their work. Canva fosters creativity, boosts confidence, and transforms the learning experience into a more engaging and interactive process. Moreover, Canva's structured templates and design elements play a crucial role in helping students organize their ideas and present descriptive text in a clear and logical manner, improving their understanding of descriptive text structure and vocabulary. The collaborative features also enable seamless teamwork and peer feedback, further enhance the learning experience. Ultimately, Canva is perceived as a beneficial and highly recommended tool that not only supports students in structuring and delivering descriptive texts effectively but also transforms the learning experience into a more enjoyable, interactive, and skill-enhancing process. Its positive impact on creativity, organization, confidence, and overall presentation skills.

This study is limited by its reliance on self-reported perceptions of high school students, which may be influenced by personal biases or social desirability. The findings are also context-specific, focusing only on students' experiences within a particular educational setting and subject area (descriptive text presentations), which may not be generalizable to other contexts, disciplines,

or educational levels. Additionally, the study does not include perspectives from teachers or direct assessments of academic outcomes, which could provide a more comprehensive understanding of Canva's educational impact. Technical factors such as internet connectivity and device access, which may affect students' experiences with Canva, were not explored in depth

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