

THE STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF CANVA APPLICATION AS A TOOL IN LEARNING WRITING SKILL

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p>Article history: Received: September 15, 2023 Revised: September 25, 2023 Accepted: October 5, 2023 Published: December 30, 2023</p> <p>Keywords: Canva Application Tools Learning Writing Skills Students' Perception</p>	<p>The use of technology in English language learning can bring tremendous effects because it provides students with enjoyable learning opportunities and facilitates the development of their English language skills. In this context, the study aimed to investigate students' perceptions of using the Canva application as a tool for learning writing skills in the explanatory text, namely cause and effect in SMA Negeri 11 Semarang in the academic year 2022/2023. The study was conducted using qualitative research. The sample of the respondents was XI MIPA 6 with a total of 36 students. The sampling technique used purposive sampling. A survey technique was used to collect the data by distributing the proposed questionnaire to the respondents through Google Forms. A questionnaire was used as an instrument consisting of 3 indicators requiring 10 items to obtain data related to measure students' viewpoints on the utilization of Canva in learning writing skills. This study revealed that the Canva application proved to be a valuable resource in assisting students in cultivating their writing skills and it is regarded as a user-friendly resource since it can be conveniently reached via smartphones and personal computers. The features of Canva empower learners to exhibit their creativity in writing by using a wide variety of templates. It concludes that students can improve the quality of their writing by using Canva as a technological medium in the 21st century. Canva is a fascinating and well-chosen application and can be viewed by students as a valuable and functional learning tool to boost their writing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>This is an open access article under the CC BY-SA license.</i></p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
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INTRODUCTION

Nowadays technology has seamlessly integrated into modern society's life, exerting its influence and profound impact on various aspects of contemporary culture. According to Setyowati et al., (2022), regardless of age or gender, the inclusion of new technologies like computers, the internet, wireless devices, and social networks has become commonplace in many people's lives. Technological advancements have introduced innovative features that

enable convenient communication, alter social interactions, facilitate online shopping and much more. Ghavifekr & Wan Rosdy (2015) stated that innovation has brought about significant changes in societies, reshaping societies' perspectives, work patterns, and lifestyles. As a result, individuals have increasingly relied on technology as an integral part of their everyday existence. Furthermore, the development of modern technology has influenced multiple domains, including education. The presence of modern technology has significantly benefited the advancement of education in the current era.

According to Puspitasari et al., (2021), due to the rapid advancement of technology, teachers need to be flexible in incorporating instructional media, despite the hesitance of certain EFL teachers to integrate technology into their teaching methods. Technology and interactive teaching emphasize important factors, such as communication, interaction, and discussion between teachers and students in the learning process. The EFL teachers encounter various obstacles such as the accessibility of computer hardware and software, insufficient familiarity with computers, restricted hands-on experience, inadequate support for computer technology, time constraints, teachers' attitudes, and the lack of advancement in integrating computer technology into education (Rahmayanti et al., 2022).

The integration of technology or application in English language learning can bring tremendous effects because it provides students with enjoyable learning opportunities and facilitates the development of their English language skills. Canva is one of the solutions that encourages students' creativity through the acquisition of IT skills and effectively expressing of ideas (Christiana & Anwar, 2021; Andriyanto et al., 2021). Canva is regarded as a creative and innovative tool that enhances the teaching-learning process and fosters the development of students' collaborative abilities. Canva is a tool that enables users to create and publish content across various platforms. It is compatible with smartphones and desktop computers. It has empowered over 10 million users in 179 countries to produce over 400 million designs. Moreover, Canva supports 100 languages and is accessible through desktop browsers and mobile applications.

Furthermore, Williams & Beam (2019) found that incorporating technology in writing assignments encouraged student engagement and active participation, and increased social interaction and peer collaboration. In this context, teachers can utilize technology, specifically writing application tools enhance students' motivation in the learning process of writing English. Various technological resources are available to support students' writing tasks through the utilization of application writing tools. The teaching and learning of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) have consistently emphasized the significance of writing as a fundamental skill. Writing serves as means to reinforce language learning, foster critical thinking, and encourage self-reflection in the English language. Writing is the most intricate and grueling skill to be learned. According to Sukandi & Syafar (2018), a prior investigation reveals that students who fear making mistakes often experience writing anxiety. Apart from its technical aspects, writing anxiety encompasses emotional and cognitive elements within the psychological realm. Additionally, the study indicates that linguistic difficulties are the most essential factor in writing anxiety. Anxiety during the writing process is quite common,

particularly in the context of English as a Foreign Language (EFL). The conventional methods of teaching writing may have resulted in considerable stress experienced by students. Hence, it has been demonstrated that utilizing advanced technology can assist students in overcoming their writing anxiety (Dwiyanti & Arie, 2021). When writing practice was integrated into the teaching and learning process, students actively participated without experiencing anxiety, despite the typical fear associated with it. Furthermore, students were required to adapt to extensive online learning, as indicated by (Dwiyanti & Arie, 2021; Unger & Meiran, 2020). The study discovered that students' anxiety played a role in response to the abrupt alteration in the learning system.

Canva has the ability to enhance students' writing skills. Several previous studies have found this to be the case. According to Hadi et al., (2021), Canva serves as a motivational tool that fosters students' enthusiasm for more effective learning, leading to improve writing skills. Furthermore, demonstrated that Canva effectively assists students in enhancing their writing abilities (Yundayani et al., 2019). A pre-test and post-test were carried out to compare writing mistakes before and after employing Canva, and the results indicated a notable improvement in students' writing performance following the implementation of the ANCOVA method. Moreover, a similar result to Utami & Djamdjuri (2021), they stated the students' motivation for using Canva in Writing Class. Students' motivation in writing classes increased after using Canva in the teaching and learning process. Additionally, the utilization of 'Canva for Education' in writing procedure text proved to be successful as it enhanced the students was effective because it could improve the student's writing skills, the students were more enthusiastic in writing procedure text and all students could respond to their group work by commenting on the process (Fauziyah et al., 2016).

In this study, the writers will describe students' perceptions of the Canva application as a tool for learning writing skill in explanatory text, namely cause and effect in SMA Negeri 11 Semarang. Based on the writer's teaching experience at SMA Negeri 11 Semarang, some teachers used Quizizz, Jamboard, and Padlet to support their instructional practices. The use of these tools aimed to enhance students' classroom experiences and foster enjoyable, engaging, and relevant learning. Language learning applications contribute to the improvement of education quality by developing students' learning abilities, not only by boosting their creativity and skills but also by increasing their motivation and interest in specific subjects. In particular, when Canva is integrated into learning activities, especially in explanatory text learning, teachers have the opportunity to generate innovative learning content utilizing the features of Canva. This enables them to attract students' attention, gain students' interest, and enhance their writing skills during the learning process. In accordance with the phenomena above, the writers conducted a study to investigate students' perceptions of using the Canva application as a tool for learning writing skills.

RESEARCH METHOD

The study was conducted using qualitative research. According to Nassaji (2015), a qualitative research is typically more comprehensive and usually involves collecting valuable data from various sources to acquire a deeper comprehension of each participant, including their perspectives, opinions, and attitudes. This method was used by the writers to describe students' perceptions of the Canva application as a tool for learning writing skills.

The population in this study is the eleventh-graders students of SMA Negeri 11 Semarang in the academic year 2022/2023. It consists of 12 classes with a total number of students are 432 students. The respondent of the study was XI MIPA 6 with a total of 36 students. The sampling technique used to determine the respondents in this study was a non-probability sampling technique, specifically purposive sampling. The purposive sampling is a form of non-random sampling in which sampling decisions are made by the writers themselves or based on research experts review (Sekaran & Bougie, 2016). After that, the writers used Google Forms as a medium to distribute the questionnaire by giving the URL sites of Google Forms to the respondents.

The data collection used a 10 items questionnaire as instruments of obtaining data to measure students' perceptions of using Canva in learning writing skills. Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD) were the four categories on the Likert scale that ranged from 1-4 in the close-ended questions used in the study. In this study, a survey technique was used to collect data by distributing proposed questionnaires to respondents. The respondents were asked to complete and respond to a scale provided scales in the questionnaire. The questionnaires are shown in Table 1 based on (Priyatna et al., 2023) Table 1. The Questionnaires Related to Students' Perception of the Use of Canva in Writing Skill

No.	Indicators	Number of Tests	Number of Items
1	Usefulness	Canva helps students to practice writing	4
		Canva helps students to understand complex information	
		Canva attracts students' attention to be focused	
		Features of Canva can be easily accessed	
2	Ease	The writing result of Canva can be downloaded in different formats	3
		Canva is flexible to be used in writing class.	
		Canva helps to create different designs for writing	
3	Suitability to support writing skills	Canva provides effective features to assist in writing	3
		Canva provides adequate writing practice	
		Canva enhances writing ability	

Based on the table above, there are three indicators, including usefulness, ease, and suitability for supporting writing skills. Usefulness was defined as how Canva can be valuable English writing skills by providing opportunities for practice, aiding in comprehension of complex information, and promoting focus through its available features. Secondly, ease was interpreted as how the Canva features enable various formats, flexibility, and facilitate diverse designs. Suitability was interpreted as how Canva can provide effective and relevant features

to enhance students' writing skills. Additionally, Canva's suitability in improving students' writing skill was measured. In this study, the respondents were asked to complete the questionnaire through Google Forms. Then, the questionnaire results were calculated, with the writers extracting a percentage from each student's response sheet. The results were then compared with theoretical and empirical material to assist researchers in analyzing the data obtained for discussion. Finally, the writers drew and verified the conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

RESULT

The study aimed to investigate students' perceptions of using the Canva application as a tool for learning writing skills. Subsequently, the researchers provided a comprehensive examination of the questionnaire and presents the responses given by the respondents. The initial part of the questionnaire was designed to collect personal information from students, including names, student ID numbers, and gender. The response revealed that XI MIPA 6 consisted of twenty female students and sixteen male students. The overall results can be seen in the findings below.

Students' Perceptions of Canva's Usefulness in Writing Skills

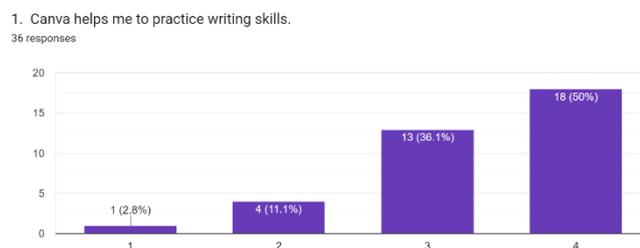


Fig. 1. Percentage of Question Number 1

The students responded that Canva helps students to practice writing skills. The findings showed that 18 students (50%) selected strongly agree with Canva can help them to practice writing skills. Furthermore, 13 students (36.1%) selected agree, while 4 students (11.1%) selected disagree with the statements. Moreover, one student (2.8%) selected strongly disagree with it. Therefore, the majority of students positively perceived using Canva as a useful tool for practicing students writing skills, with 86,1% of the total students agree and strongly agree. The rest of the students 13.9% disagree and strongly disagree. Students who effectively use Canva tend to train in writing skills because they can be creative and pour ideas into the Canva application so that they look active and interactive.

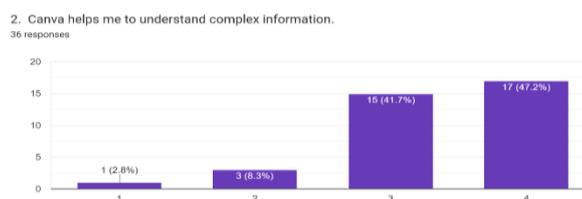


Fig. 2. Percentage of Question Number 2

The data of Canva helps students to understand complex information showed that 17 students (47,2%) answered strongly agree that Canva helps them to understand complex information, 15 students (41,7%) stated that they agree, while 3 students (8,3%) said that they disagree Canva helps them to understand complex information. In addition, one student (2,8%) strongly disagree with the statement. Hence, most students positively perceived using Canva as a useful tool for understanding complex information with 88,9% of the total students agree and strongly agree. Other students answered 13,9% disagree and strongly disagree. So, the Canva application is useful for understanding complex information because, with Canva, students can turn complex information into simple visuals that win over any audience.

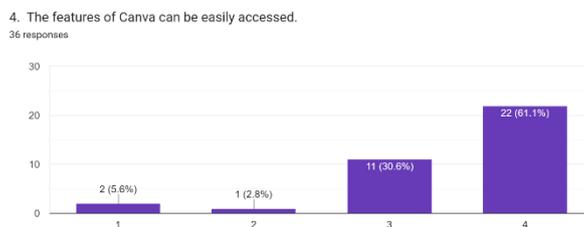


Fig. 3. Percentage of Question Number 3

The next findings concern percentage students' perceptions on the useful with which Canva attract students' attention to be focused. Based on the data showed that a majority of 17 students (47.2%) strongly agree and 8 students (22.2%) agree that Canva attracts the students' attention to focus more on it. Besides, 7 students (19,4%) answered disagree and 4 students (11.1%) answered strongly disagree with the statement. Therefore, most students stated that using Canva is useful for attracting students' attention to be more focused, accounting for 69.4% of the total students agree and strongly agree, while the rest disagree and strongly disagree. Students always focus on paying attention and concentrating regarding the ways to use Canva because it creates a positive learning environment through any provided facilities, specifically affecting concentration.

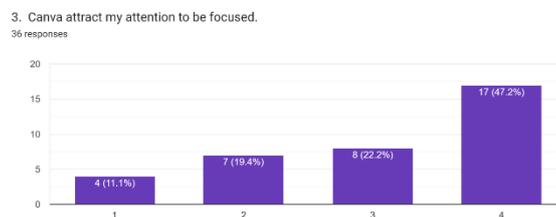


Fig. 4. Percentage of Question Number 4

The percentage of the Canva's features can be easily accessed showed that a majority of 22 students (61.1%) strongly agree and 11 students (30.6%) agree that Canva's features can be easily accessed by students. While one student (2.8%) and 2 students (5.6%) answered disagree and strongly disagree with the statement. So, a majority of the students, 91.7% stated that the features of Canva are easily accessible, while 8.4% stated the opposite. Generally, Canva is a user-friendly application with a ready-made template, tutorials, and accessibility, so students can easily access the features of the Canva application.

Students' Perceptions of Canva's Ease in Writing Skills

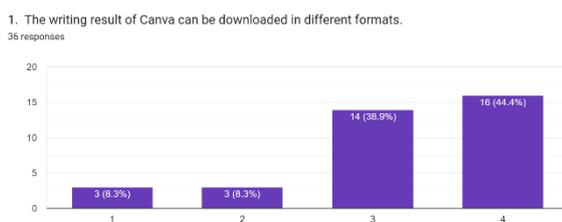


Fig. 5. Percentage of Question Number 1

The findings for the second indicators concerns students' perceptions of the ease with which Canva's writing results can be downloaded in a variety of formats showed that 16 students (44.4%) stated strongly agree and 14 students (38.9%) agree Canva's writings could be downloaded in several formats. Vice versa, 3 students (8.3%) and 3 students (8.3%) stated that disagree and strongly disagree with it. However, there may be certain limitations or reasons why specific formats are not available for download in certain situations. Thus, the majority of students 83.3% of the total students strongly agree and agree have a positive perception that their writing on Canva is easy to download in several formats. Meanwhile, other students stated that they disagree with the statement. It is important to note that Canva is primarily a graphic design platform, and while it provides options for downloading designs in various formats, it may not encompass the full range of formats available in specialized design software.

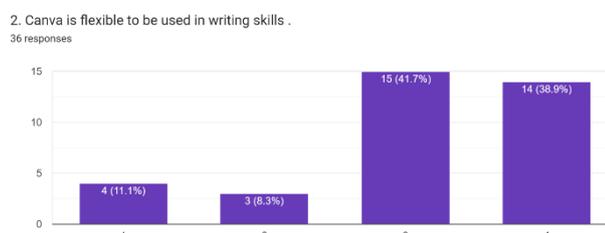


Fig. 6. Percentage of Question Number 2

The data of Canva is flexible to be used in writing skills showed that a majority of 14 students (38.9%) strongly agree and 15 students (41.7%) agree that Canva is flexible in writing skills. Besides, 3 students (8.3%) answered disagree and 4 students (11.1%) answered strongly disagree with the statement. Therefore, the majority of students stated the use of Canva is very flexible for use in writing skills, accounting for 80.6% of the total students strongly agree and agree. Canva's flexibility can complement and support many aspects of written communication, so Canva can be a valuable tool for students looking to improve their writing skills.

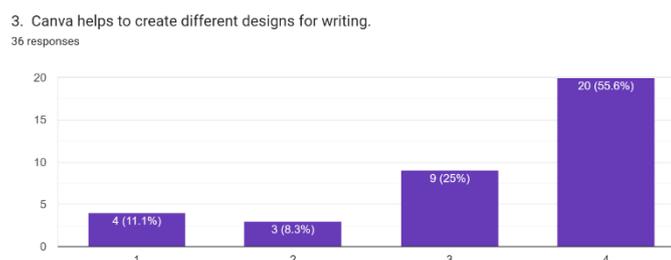


Fig. 7. Percentage of Question Number 3

The percentage of the Canva helps to create different designs for writing showed that 20 students (55.6%) stated strongly agree and 9 students (25%) agree Canva can help to create different writing designs. Besides, 3 students (8.3%) and 4 students (11.1%) stated that disagree and strongly disagree with it. However, the majority of students, 80.6% of the total students, strongly agree and agree that they have a positive perception that Canva can help writing by creating visually appealing and impactful designs that effectively communicate their written message.

Suitability for Supporting Writing Skills

1. Canva provides effective features to assist in writing.
36 responses

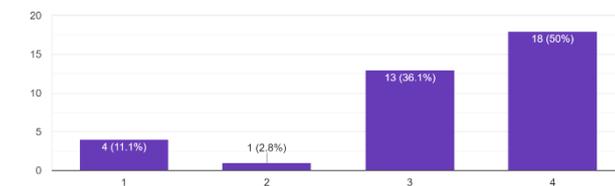


Fig. 8. Percentage of Question Number 1

The students responded that Canva provides effective features to assist in writing. The Based on the data showed that a majority of 18 students (50%) strongly agree and 13 students (36.1%) agree that Canva provides effective features to assist in writing skills. While one student (2.8%) and 4 students (11.1%) answered disagree and strongly disagree with the statement. So, a majority of the students, 86.1% stated that Canva provides effective tools to help them create visually appealing content that matches their writing skills.

2. Canva provides adequate writing practice.
36 responses

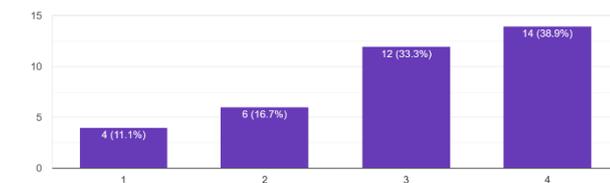


Fig. 9. Percentage of Question Number 2

The next element in this finding is Canva provides adequate writing practice. The data showed that 14 students (38.9%) stated strongly agree and 12 students (33.3%) agree that Canva provides adequate writing practice. While 6 students (16.7%) and 4 students (11.1%) stated that disagree and strongly disagree with it. Thus, the majority of students 72.2%, and only 27,8% of the students disagreed and strongly disagree. With these findings, most students positively respond to using Canva because it makes it easier for them to practice writing.

3. Canva enhances writing ability.
36 responses

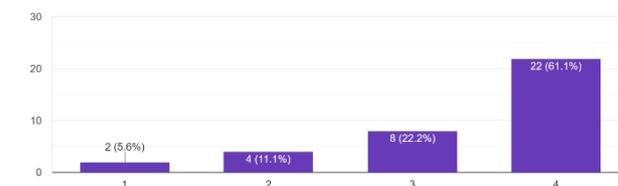


Fig. 10. Percentage of Question Number 3

Based on the last figure, the students argued that Canva enhances them in writing ability. The percentage of the data mentioned that 22 students (61.1%) stated strongly agree and 8 students (22.2%) agree that Canva enhances writing ability. While 4 students (11.1%) and 2 students (5.6%) stated that disagree and strongly disagree with the statements. Thus, the majority of students 83.3%, and only 16.7% of the students disagreed and strongly disagree. Thus, the writers can conclude that Canva is a great graphic design application for creating designs and can be used to enhance students' writing skills.

DISCUSSION

The results of the study revealed that students had positive perceptions of Canva's usefulness, ease, and suitability of Canva for supporting English writing skills. The Canva application is a tool that helps students improve in writing skills. As a useful tool in teaching English, teachers and pupils had positive consequences when utilized in the teaching and learning process. Specifically, the Canva application proved to be beneficial for writing comprehension, user-friendly and enhances the creativity involved in teaching and learning. Canva can be used to encourage students to practice their writing skills (Salam & Mudinillah, 2021). According to Fitria (2022) that using Canva as a learning tool offers some simple features for students to use. Canva is integrated to promote learning activities in writing exercises (Hadi et al., 2021). In line with Smaldino et al., (2015), he stated that Canva and similar visual aids in the classroom have to potential to: produce concrete abstract ideas, encourage students, provide focused concentration, repeat material, remember prior knowledge, and enhance the appeal of learning. Students will have no problem using Canva as long as they write. It becomes even more interesting because it also allows students to use various templates that have been provided to design their writing. Canva also facilitates students in arranging visuals, pictures, graphics, and other accessible features that influence student motivation to write. Furthermore, as stated by Dantes et al., (2022), the Canva's features assist in writing activities by offering an extensive range of writing templates such as PowerPoint Presentations, mind maps, brochures, posters, etc. The students can enhance their focus on their writing and design by the Canva application.

In addition, The Canva application is an easy-to-use tool as it can be easily accessed by mobile phones and personal computers. Canva can be downloaded and installed for free via web browser and visit the Canva webpage. Canva is feasible and easy to support students in learning activities. In accordance with Utami & Djamdjuri (2021), Canva has the potential to enhance the enthusiasm of students in writing, and this enthusiasm can greatly facilitate their learning process. Canva could create captivating designs for innovative writing projects, which can further enhance the imaginative skills of students in designing. Canva offers free access for its users by signing in through a Google account. Moreover, Canva provides premium access to get more templates with various designs. This was also revealed by Christiana & Anwar (2021), Canva provides both free and premium accounts, the free account also offers many templates. The users don't need to worry about the limited template designs to access. Regarding its features, Canva has a simple interface that is easy for users to understand. Additionally, Canva's output can be downloaded in a variety of formats. Students can write and design text in Canva and download it in the format of their choice.

In the terms of the suitability of Canva in writing skills, Canva is recognized as a website for graphic design. However, it can be used to practice writing skills. Canva's features empower learners to exhibit their creativity in writing by using a wide variety of templates.

This provides an opportunity for students to experiment with different writing enjoyably and engagingly. It can increase the students' motivation to write. Canva is integrated to encourage learning activities in writing exercises (Candra et al., 2022).

So, this study stated the use of the Canva application has a favorable influence on students' writing abilities and fosters their creativity, imagination, and capacity to generate exceptional ideas. The students' perspectives of success are positively affected, motivating them to create extraordinary products. The students believe that Canva helps them become more confident and creative with features, such as designs, templates, images, icons, shapes, and backgrounds. Apart from that, Canva is an attractive application and the right choice for the teaching and learning process. Thus, students' perception of using the Canva application as a tool in learning writing skills has positive perceptions in all aspects, such as usefulness, ease of use, and suitability for writing skills.

CONCLUSION

The writers conclude that the students feel positive in using Canva application as a tool in learning writing skills. They also become satisfied with Canva's usability, accessibility, and suitability to support English writing skills. In writing, students learn how to write ideas, information and understand writing to gain information and knowledge. Writing ability can be a challenging task for students. They often find it uninteresting as they struggle to express their ideas. For various reasons, including unreadable language rules, grammar, and limited knowledge of the subject matter. Ineffective learning techniques or unsuitable strategies can also make the learning process boring. Additionally, students' motivation may be lacking, with some feeling disinterested in improving their writing abilities due to boredom and laziness toward reading.

The Canva application makes the writing process easier for students. They found that Canva make it easier for them to express their ideas, making it easier for readers to understand their message. Finally, the students stated that they are more motivated to write and the use of Canva can lower their anxiety. The students can improve their writing by using Canva as a technology medium of the 21st century. Additionally, they learn how to incorporate technology into language learning. The students also enjoy in learning foreign languages. Canva is viewed by students as a useful and practical learning tool for promoting their writing.

Thus, the writers had certain suggestions are made to students, English teachers, and other researchers. The students are encouraged to investigate new avenues for technological, such as the Canva application, that may assist them with creative writing. English teachers need to be creative with their students and understand the students' freedom and willingness to express themselves through creative writing in an audiovisual application called the Canva Application. Then, other researchers are expected to become research reference sources who analyze student perceptions completely and thoroughly and are expected to collect additional samples, such as at the university level, so as to expand the data.

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