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Palangka Raya, 26 Januari 2021

Nomor Lampiran Peihal

: I (Satu) Berkas : Permohonan bantuan biaya pendaftaran konferensi internasional

Yth. Dekan FTIK IAIN Palangka Raya Di Palangka Raya

Assalamualaikum War. Wab.

Sehubungan diterimanya naskah kami untuk dipresentasikan dan dipublikasi di proceeding internasional bereputasi *The 2nd Southeast Asian Conference on Education (SEACE2021) pada May 13–16, 2021 di Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore* dengan ini kami mengajukan Permohonan Permohonan bantuan biaya pendaftaran konferensi internasional pada acara tersebut sebesar 350 USD atau sebesar 5 250.000 (1 USD= 15 000) kode kegiatan 2132.000.400.600.BD. Sebagai bahan pertimbangan dengan ini saya lampirkan.

a. abstrak

b. LoA

Demikian permohonan kami, atas segala perhatian dan perkenannya disampaikan banyak terima kasih.

Wassalamualaikum War. Wab.

Pemohon

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#### The Southeast Asian Conference on Education (SEACE2021)

Online from Singapore Management University (SMU) | Friday, May 14, 2021 to Sunday, May 16, 2021

Submission Title: The Effect of Gender and Learning Styles on L2 Learners' Writing Performance at Higher Education Submission Number: 59630 Authors: Sabarun Sabarun, Hamidah Hamidah and Marsiah Marsiah Presentation Type: Virtual Presentation

#### Dear Mr Sabarun,

On behalf of the SEACE2021 Organising Committee, I am pleased to inform you that your Virtual Presentation proposal, "The Effect of Gender and Learning Styles on L2 Learners' Writing Performance at Higher Education", for SEACE2021 has met the accepted international academic standard of blind peer review, and has been accepted for presentation.

The conference will be held at Online from Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore from Friday, May 14, 2021 to Sunday, May 16, 2021. For more detailed information about the conference, please visit the conference website.

To confirm your participation in the conference, please register by Thursday, April 1, 2021. Once you have registered, if you cannot present for any reason, please notify the conference team at searce@lafor.org. If there is a day on which you are unable to present, please contact the conference team at the time of registration. We ask that you reserve requests of this nature for religious reasons or other exceptional and unavoidable circumstances.

Thank you for submitting to The Southeast Asian Conference on Education. We look forward to welcoming you to the conference.

Yours Sincerely,

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Joseph Haldane, PhD (London), F.R.A.S. Chairman & CEO, IAFOR

The International Academic Forum (IAFOR), 5akae 1-16-26 - 201, Naka Ward, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan 460-0008 International, Intercultural, Interdisciplinary

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#### The 2nd Southeast Asian Conference on Education (SEACE2021)

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Organised by The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) in partnership with Singapore Management University (SMU),
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# Certificate of Presentation

# Sabarun (IAIN Palangka Raya, Indonesia)

has presented the research entitled:

#### The Effect of Gender and Learning Styles on L2 Learners' Writing Performance at Higher Education

This is to confirm that Sabarun (59630), having presented the above research, actively participated in The 2nd Southeast Asian Conference on Education (SEACE2021), and thereby contributed to the academic success of the event.

On behalf of the SEACE2021 Organising Committee:

Dr Joseph Haldane Chairman & CEO, The International Academic Forum (IAFOR)

# The Effect of Gender and Learning Styles on L2 Learners' Writing Performance at Higher Education

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**Abstract**: The study attempted to measure the interaction effects of gender and learning styles toward writing performance. This study applied expost facto research design using questionnaire and test as instruments. The participants were 80 learners at IAIN Palangka Raya of 2019/2020 academic year consisting of 38 males and 42 females; 23 visual, 33 auditory, and 24 kinesthetic learners. A two way Anova test was implemented to analyze data. The analysis confirmed that gender (F= 5.248, p= 0.025), and learning styles (F= 8.722; p=0.000) contributed to give effect on writing performance. The study revealed that female was higher than male; and the visual learners got the highest score, followed by auditory and kinesthetic learners in their writing performance. On the contrary, between gender and learning styles (F=0.036, p= 0.956> 0.05 gave no interaction effect simultaneously on writing performance. It was suggested that lecturers provide the class appropriately to facilitate a variety of learning styles of learners. Further studies on learning styles with wider sample size in writing class was recommended.

Keywords: gender, learning styles, writing performance, higher education.

#### Introduction

Despite the facts that there has been widely discussed about learners' learning style preferences, (Chen, S., & Zhang, J. (2008); Nuzhat, Salem, Quadri, & AlHamdan, 2011), there were still limited researches discussing the learning styles in the context of L2 Kalimantan learners at higher education. This study fills those gaps by considering gender. In fact, understanding learners' learning styles in L2 writing class is an important thing for L2 teachers. In EFL context, learning style deals with students' way to process information of a language. Moreover, Vester (2005) defines it as the way a learner perceives, organizes and recalls information. Many educators confirmed learning styles as one reason behind learner' unique (Nygaard, C., Højlt, T., & Hermansen, M., 2008). David Kolb was an expert of learning styles (1984). After that, Neil Fleming proposed VAK model (2001): visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners. VAK is three types of learning style to exhibit learners preference by seeing, listening and touching. Moreover, Mackay (2011, p. 205) believes that VAK learning style can increase thelearners' ability. It is concluded that VAK is a learning style combining three sensory modalities by seeing, hearing and moving. Walsh (2010, p.8) states that it consists of visual, auditory and kinesthetic one. DePorter & Hernacki (1999, p.112) confirmed that the first important thing is to classify a learner's style:

visual, auditory, or kinesthetic ones. Gholami (2013, p.70) believed that visual learners would like studying using visual ways, such as reading and viewing. The auditory prefer studying using discussion, conversation, and group work. Then, kinesthetic prefer studying using physical involvement. Moreover, Ghaedi & Jam (2014, p.1234) confirmed that the VAK model prefered to use of sight, hearing, and touch in learning process. In EFL classes, especially in L2 writing class, learners used various learning styles. Learners can prefer more than one of learning styles. In this case, teachers should use as many as possible of various teaching methods to provide learners' learning styles (Cuaresma, 2008). Instructor has to apply appropriate teaching method so that it is more appropriate with learners' learning style.

Some experts considered learning styles is important in language class (Rourke & Lysynchuck, 2000; Cassidy & Eachus, 2000; Ounwattana & Moungchoo, 2009). The study conducted by Naimie, at.al. (2010) revealed that agreement between teaching method and learning styles can improve better on learners' outcome. Then, Gilakjani (2012) found that visual and auditory were more preferred by learners. Gender also plays an important thing in students' learning styles. Next, Dobson (2010) found the correlation among learning style, gender and learning achievement. In contrast, Bidabadi and Yamat (2010) found that gender did not give effect on writing performance. Next, Wehrwein, Lujan, and DiCarlo (2007) showed that gender gave facilitative effect on learning styles.

Different with those researches, the study would like to contribute to the existing research by focusing on the simultaneous effect of gender and learning types on the learners' writing performance at higher education. The research questions of the study: (a) Do EFL learners with different gender differ significantly in their writing performance? (b) Do EFL learners with different types of learning styles differ significantly in their writing performance? (c) Do EFL learners with different gender and learning styles differ significantly in their writing performance? The aim is to measure wether there is a simultaneously influence or not of gender and learning types on the learners' writing performance. The novelty is that gender and learning types as variables that assumed to influence the learners' writing performance.

#### Method

This part covered the research method, design, participants, procedures, and analysis of data. The study belonged to quantitative paradigm of non experimental research. This study applied an expost facto research design using questionnaire and test as research instruments (Ary, at.al. 2010, p.641). This study also called causal comparative study. Here, the different characteristics of the participants were already existed. The questionnaire was used to determine the learners' preference on their types of learning style and their gender. The VAK model of learning style as proposed by Fleming (2001) was used in this study. Meanwhile, the writing test was done to see writing performance. The subjects were 80 L2 learners consisting of 38 males and 42 females; 23 visual, 33 auditory, and 24 kinesthetic learners as illustrated in Table 1.

| Types of Learning Styles | Gei  | Total  |    |
|--------------------------|------|--------|----|
|                          | Male | Female |    |
| Visual learners          | 8    | 15     | 23 |
| Auditory learners        | 28   | 5      | 33 |
| Kinesthetic learners     | 2    | 22     | 24 |
| Sub total                | 38   | 42     | 80 |
| Total                    | 8    | 30     |    |

**Table 1. The distribution of the Participants** 

# Procedures

The beginning step of this research, the questionnaire of 30 items was distributed to the learners to classify the learning style preferences. Then, the subjects were assigned to make a composition on the selected topic. Before analysing the data, the assumption test for analysis of variance (ANOVA) was conducted, such as testing the normality using Kolmogorov Smirnof test (Sig.0.343 > p. 0.050, and testing homogeneity (Sig. 0.773> p.0.050 (Pallant, 2000, p. 2) The output revealed that the data were normally distributed and not violated the homogeneity.

The null hypotheses were: (a) L2 learners with different gender did not differ significantly in their writing performance; (b) L2 learners with different types of learning styles did not differ significantly in their writing performance? (c) L2 learners with different gender and learning styles did not differ significantly in their writing performance. Here, there were two categorical independent variables: gender (male- female), learners' learning styles (Visual, Auditory and Kinesthetic learners); and one dependent variable: learners' writing performance. To analyse the data, a two way Anova was employed. Finally, the interpretation was made to see the interaction between gender and types of learning styles on the learners' writing performance.

#### Result

#### Data Presentation

The test was followed by 80 participants consisting of 38 males and 42 females; 23 visual, 33 auditory, and 24 kinesthetic learners. To respond the three research questions, the learners' composition were scored. The inter-rater reliability of the raters' scores was observed and it was found to be 0.785, showing that both raters gave the balanced scores about learners' composition. The learners' writing performance was described in Table 2.

| Gender (X1) | Learning Styles (X2) | Mean    | Std. Deviation | Ν  |
|-------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|----|
| Male        | Visual               | 72.7500 | 11.79285       | 8  |
|             | Auditory             | 64.2500 | 8.68214        | 28 |
|             | Kinesthetic          | 55.0000 | 7.07107        | 2  |
|             | Total                | 65.5526 | 10.05847       | 38 |
| Female      | Visual               | 79.4000 | 9.75998        | 15 |
|             | Auditory             | 71.0000 | 11.40175       | 5  |
|             | Kinesthetic          | 63.8182 | 10.33550       | 22 |
|             | Total                | 70.2381 | 12.36204       | 42 |
| Total       | Visual               | 77.0870 | 10.74038       | 23 |
|             | Auditory             | 65.2727 | 9.26780        | 33 |
|             | Kinesthetic          | 63.0833 | 10.29105       | 24 |
|             | Total                | 68.0125 | 11.49958       | 80 |

#### Table 2. The learners' writing Accuracy

The table indicated that the average scores of each group as follows. The mean score of male visual learners was 72.75; Auditory 64.25; Kinesthetic 55.00. The mean score of female visual learners was 79.40; Auditory 71.00; Kinesthetic 63.81. The average score of both male and female visual leaners was 77.09; Auditory 65.27; Kinesthetic 63.08. The average score of male without involving learning styles was 65.55 and female was 70.23. The average score of all learners was 68.01. The learners' writing performance was described in Figure 1.



Figure 1. The learners' writing performance

#### Testing Hypothesis

To respond the three research questions, the the two-way ANOVA table described as illustrated in Table 3.

| Source                  | Type III Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F       | Sig. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----|-------------|---------|------|
| Corrected Model         | 3291.365ª               | 5  | 658.273     | 6.808   | .000 |
| Intercept               | 169620.878              | 1  | 169620.878  | 1.754E3 | .000 |
| gender                  | 507.432                 | 1  | 507.432     | 5.248   | .025 |
| learningstyles          | 1686.765                | 2  | 843.383     | 8.722   | .000 |
| gender * learningstyles | 6.947                   | 2  | 3.474       | .036    | .965 |
| Error                   | 7155.623                | 74 | 96.698      |         |      |
| Total                   | 380503.000              | 80 |             |         |      |
| Corrected Total         | 10446.988               | 79 |             |         |      |

#### Table 3. Tests of Between- Subjects

The output explained that the sig. value of the corrected model was 0.000 < 0.050 and F=6.808; it meant that it was valid to measure the interaction effect among the variables. Then, the sig of intercept was 0.000 and F=1.754E3 or less than 0.05. It meant that the intercept was significant. It

meant the score, without influenced by other variables, gave contribution to learners' writing performance. The gender's sig.value was 0.025 or lower than 0.05; it confirmed that gender contributed to writing performance. The significance value of learning styles was 0.000 < 0.05; meaning that learning styles contributed to writing accuracy. The sig value of gender and learning styles was 0.965 >0.05; meaning that gender and learning styles simultaneously did not contribute to writing accuracy. The further explanation was as follows:

# EFL learners with different gender do not differ in their writing performance.

To response the RQ1: "Do EFL learners with different gender differ significantly in their writing performance?" the two-way ANOVA table explained the answer, as explained in Table 3 above. The output indicated that F= 5.248 (for gender) and sig. was 0.025 or lower than 0.05. It showed that there were a significant difference on writing performance caused by gender factor. In this case, female was higher than male in their writing performance. The average score of male was 64.00 and female was 71.41, as illustrated in Table 4.

#### Table 4. Gender (X1)

Dependent Variable: Writing Performance (Y)

|             |        | Std.  | 95% Confidence Interval |                    |
|-------------|--------|-------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Gender (X1) | Mean   | Error | Lower Bound             | <b>Upper Bound</b> |
| Male        | 64.000 | 2.664 | 58.691                  | 69.309             |
| Female      | 71.406 | 1.831 | 67.757                  | 75.055             |

Then, based on Pairwise Comparison Table, it revealed the mean difference between male and female was 7.406 and the sig. value was 0.025. The difference mean occured between male and female on the learners' writing performance, as illustrated in Table 5.

| (I) gender | (J) gender | Mean<br>Difference | Std.  |                   | 95% Confiden<br>Difference <sup>a</sup> | ce Interval for    |
|------------|------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| (X1)       | (X1)       | ( <b>I-J</b> )     | Error | Sig. <sup>a</sup> | Lower Bound                             | <b>Upper Bound</b> |
| Male       | Female     | -7.406*            | 3.233 | .025              | -13.848                                 | 964                |
| Female     | Male       | $7.406^{*}$        | 3.233 | .025              | .964                                    | 13.848             |

# Table 5. Pairwise Comparisons

#### EFL learners with different learning styles do not differ in their writing performance.

The output from Table 3 also indicated that the F=8.722 (for learning styles) and the sig was 0.000, or smaller than 0.05. It meant that there were significant differences on writing performance caused by learning styles factor. It indicated that visual, aditory, and kinesthetic learners differed significantly in their writing performance. The mean score of visual leaners was 76.08; Auditory 67.63; Kinesthetic 59.41. Here, the visual learners got the highest score, followed by auditory and kinesthetic learners, as explained in Table 6.

# Table 6. Learning Styles (X2)Dependent Variable:Writing Performance (Y)

|                      |        |            | 95% Confiden | ce Interval        |
|----------------------|--------|------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Learning Styles (X2) | Mean   | Std. Error | Lower Bound  | <b>Upper Bound</b> |
| Visual               | 76.075 | 2.153      | 71.786       | 80.364             |
| Auditory             | 67.625 | 2.387      | 62.869       | 72.381             |
| Kinesthetic          | 59.409 | 3.631      | 52.174       | 66.645             |

# EFL learners with different gender and learning styles do not differ in their writing performance

The output of Table 3 also indicated that the F= 0.036 (for gender and learning styles) and the sig was 0.965 > 0.05. This meant that differences did not occur on writing performance caused by gender and learning styles factors. It meant that both gender and learning styles did not give facilitative effect to their writing performance, as explained in Table 7.

| Table 7. Gender | · (X1) * | Learning Styles (X2) |
|-----------------|----------|----------------------|
|-----------------|----------|----------------------|

|             |                      |        |            | 95% Confiden | ce Interval        |
|-------------|----------------------|--------|------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Gender (X1) | Learning Styles (X2) | Mean   | Std. Error | Lower Bound  | <b>Upper Bound</b> |
| Male        | Visual               | 72.750 | 3.477      | 65.823       | 79.677             |
|             | Auditory             | 64.250 | 1.858      | 60.547       | 67.953             |
|             | Kinesthetic          | 55.000 | 6.953      | 41.145       | 68.855             |
| Female      | Visual               | 79.400 | 2.539      | 74.341       | 84.459             |
|             | Auditory             | 71.000 | 4.398      | 62.237       | 79.763             |
|             | Kinesthetic          | 63.818 | 2.097      | 59.641       | 67.996             |

Dependent Variable: Writing Performance (Y)

This indicated that all independent variable did not give effect simultaneously toward learners' writing performance. Then, the value of R squared was 0.315. This indicated that the correlation was moderate. Next, the two way ANOVA was continued to pos hoc test. It was done to see the significant difference among the groups, as described in Table 8.

| (I) learning | (J) learning | Mean Difference |            |      | 95% Confide | ence Interval      |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|------|-------------|--------------------|
| styles (X2)  | styles (X2)  | ( <b>I-J</b> )  | Std. Error | Sig. | Lower Bound | <b>Upper Bound</b> |
| Visual       | Auditory     | 11.8142*        | 2.67104    | .000 | 5.4257      | 18.2027            |
|              | Kinesthetic  | 14.0036*        | 2.86937    | .000 | 7.1408      | 20.8665            |
| Auditory     | Visual       | -11.8142*       | 2.67104    | .000 | -18.2027    | -5.4257            |
|              | Kinesthetic  | 2.1894          | 2.63805    | .686 | -4.1202     | 8.4990             |
| Kinesthetic  | Visual       | -14.0036*       | 2.86937    | .000 | -20.8665    | -7.1408            |
|              | Auditory     | -2.1894         | 2.63805    | .686 | -8.4990     | 4.1202             |

**Table 8. Multiple Comparisons** 

The table showed the mean difference between Visual and Auditory was  $11.8142^*$  (Sig. 0.000) or lower than 0.05. This confirmed the difference occured among Visual and Auditory learners in their writing performance. Then, the mean difference between Visual and Kinesthetic was  $14.0036^*$  (Sig. 0.000) or lower than 0.05. This confirmed the difference occured between Visual and Kinesthetic learners in their writing performance. Next, the mean difference between Auditory and Kinesthetic was 2.1894 (Sig. 0. 686) >p=0.05. It was said that the difference did not occur between Visual and Kinesthetic learners. To see the further explanation on interaction effect among variables was illustrated in Figure 2.

Estimated Marginal Means of Writing Performance (Y)



Figure 2. The interaction effect among variables

#### A. Discussion

Writing Performance (Y)

The analysis concluded that gender (F= 5.248, p= 0.025), and learning styles (F= 8.722; p=0.000) gave effect on writing performance. In contrast, there was no interaction between gender and learning styles was (F=0.036, p= 0.956) on the learners' writing performance. It indicated that both gender and learning styles did not give effect simultaneously on writing performance. This finding was supported with Ahmed (2012), Rambe and Zainuddin (2014), Rasool & Rawaf (2008). The finding was also in line with Gilakjani (2012), Dobson (2010), Solvie & Kloek, 2007; Chen, S., & Zhang, J. (2008); Pashler, McDaniel, Rohrer, & Bjork (2008); Franzoni & Assar, 2009; Kumar, Voralu, Pani, & Sethuraman, 2009; Nuzhat, Salem, Quadri, & AlHamdan, 2011).

The result confirmed that language instructors have to be aware of the learning style preferred by students. By doing so, teachers can choose appropriate teaching method in classroom setting. However, the learning style is just one important variable affecting the learning achievement. There were still many other variables affecting the successful learning. The research suggested that learners be aware of their learning style preferences. For pedagogical implications, lecturers should provide various teaching methods to facilitate different learning styles of students. The study has some limitations of this study. The participants of study were only 80 learners. Therefore, the finding could not be generalized to the targetted population in the university. It also only emphasized on gender and three types of learning style in L2 writing class. Therefore, the further studies are recommended to include some other variables such as, education background, learners' economic status, motivation, and multicultural background involved in the future study.

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#### Appendix 1

#### Levene's Test of Equality of Error Variances<sup>a</sup>

Dependent Variable: Writing Performance (Y)

| F     | df1 | df2 | Sig. |
|-------|-----|-----|------|
| 1.089 | 5   | 74  | .374 |

Tests the null hypothesis that the error variance of the dependent variable is equal across groups.

a. Design: Intercept + gender + learningstyles + gender \* learningstyles

#### Appendix 2.

# **Between-Subjects Factors**

|                      |   | Value Label | Ν  |
|----------------------|---|-------------|----|
| Gender (X1)          | 1 | Male        | 38 |
|                      | 2 | Female      | 42 |
| Learning Styles (X2) | 1 | Visual      | 23 |
|                      | 2 | Auditory    | 33 |
|                      | 3 | Kinesthetic | 24 |

# Appendix 3 Test of Normality

**One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test** 

|                                |                | Unstandardize<br>d Residual |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Ν                              |                | 80                          |
| Normal Parameters <sup>a</sup> | Mean           | .0000000                    |
|                                | Std. Deviation | 9.52281358                  |
| Most Extreme<br>Differences    | Absolute       | .105                        |
|                                | Positive       | .046                        |
|                                | Negative       | 105                         |
| Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z           |                | .937                        |
| Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)         |                | .343                        |
| a. Test distribution is N      | ormal.         |                             |
|                                |                |                             |

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# Appendix 4. Levene's Test of Equality of Error Variances<sup>a</sup>

Dependent Variable:Writing Performance (Y)

| F    | df1 | df2 | Sig. |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| .503 | 5   | 74  | .773 |

Tests the null hypothesis that the error variance of the dependent variable is equal across groups.

a. Design: Intercept + gender + learningstyles + gender \* learningstyles