

## Integrating English Language Education in Village Development, Experiences and Challenges from PTMGRMD 2024

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**Abstract.** This research explores the implementation, effects, and benefits of the PTMGRMD program in enhancing English language skills within village communities. Through English language teaching in schools and English Club activities, the program has successfully improved the English language proficiency of village children, utilizing methods like songs, everyday objects, and games. Challenges remain in spelling, but overall, students from various programs participating in the program actively use English, providing a practical environment for village children to practice regularly. The positive impact extends beyond children, benefiting participating students and the village community, instilling confidence in English usage and opening new opportunities for education and employment. Long-term benefits include improved English skills for students and a foundation for further language development, enhancing community well-being.

**Keywords:** *PTMGRMD program, English language skills, village communities, teaching methods, interdisciplinary collaboration.*

**Abstrak.** Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi implementasi, dampak, dan manfaat program PTMGRMD dalam meningkatkan keterampilan bahasa Inggris di masyarakat desa. Melalui pengajaran bahasa Inggris di sekolah dan kegiatan Klub Bahasa Inggris, program ini telah berhasil meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris anak-anak desa, dengan menggunakan metode seperti lagu, benda sehari-hari, dan permainan. Tantangan tetap ada dalam ejaan, tetapi secara keseluruhan, siswa dari berbagai program yang berpartisipasi dalam program ini secara aktif menggunakan bahasa Inggris, menyediakan lingkungan praktis bagi anak-anak desa untuk berlatih secara teratur. Dampak positifnya meluas ke luar anak-anak, menguntungkan siswa yang berpartisipasi dan masyarakat desa, menanamkan kepercayaan diri dalam penggunaan bahasa Inggris dan membuka peluang baru untuk pendidikan dan pekerjaan. Manfaat jangka panjang termasuk peningkatan keterampilan bahasa Inggris bagi siswa dan landasan untuk pengembangan bahasa lebih lanjut, meningkatkan kesejahteraan masyarakat.

**Kata Kunci:** *Program PTMGRMD, keterampilan bahasa Inggris, masyarakat desa, metode pengajaran, kolaborasi interdisipliner.*

## A. Pendahuluan

Higher education institutions, as producers of excellent, intelligent, and character-driven individuals, are responsible for meeting the human resource needs of Industry, Business, and the Workforce (IDUKA) as well as society. The Ministry of Education and Culture-Research and Technology has issued Regulation No. 3 of 2020 concerning the National Standards for Higher Education. Article 15 of this regulation states that students have the right to study in other programs within the same university or in different programs at other universities, both within and outside the campus, at non-university institutions, under the concept of Independent Learning-Independent Campus (MBKM).

The Higher Education Program LLDIKTI Region IV Village Development Year 2024 is one such activity where students learn outside the campus, specifically through Village Development/Thematic Community Service. Thematic Community Service (KKN Tematik) is a form of education that provides students with experiential learning by living within the community outside the campus. This allows them to directly work with the community to identify potential and address problems, thereby developing the potential of the village/region and crafting solutions to the issues present.

The PTMGRMD activities are expected to enhance students' soft skills in partnership, interdisciplinary team collaboration, and leadership in managing development programs in rural areas. (Suratman Kartasmita et al., 2024) Through the PTMGRMD Program, it is hoped that students will be able to motivate the community to develop themselves and collectively improve overall well-being. Therefore, LLDIKTI Region IV West Java and Banten, along with its affiliated higher education institutions, are moving together, synergizing, and collaborating to optimally contribute to village development through Thematic Community Service (KKNT). This educational approach gives students the experience of living within the community, directly working together to identify potential and solve problems, thus aiming to develop the village's potential and craft solutions for existing issues.

The PTMGRMD program initially focused on five Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Extreme Poverty Literacy, Social Welfare Centers, Zero New Stunting, One Village One Product, and innovative work programs. However, this program has attracted thousands of students from various departments and faculties, resulting in benefits that extend beyond these five KPIs. Desa Citali is the target of the PTMGRMD 2024 activities, where one of the participating students is an English Education major applying their knowledge during the assignment. This background leads to the purpose of this research, which is to assess whether this program can enhance the English language skills of rural communities and to explore the implementation carried out to achieve this goal.

The purpose of this research is to explore the implementation, effects, and benefits of the PTMGRMD program in enhancing English language skills and competencies within village communities. Specifically, the study aims to describe how the PTMGRMD program is implemented to improve English language skills, analyze its effects on these skills, and identify the benefits for English students participating in the program.

### Research Problem

1. In this research, the researcher has gathered several problems that will be analyzed to yield the outcomes of this study. The problem statements include:
2. How is the implementation of PTMGRMD carried out to improve the English language skills of village communities?
3. What is the effect of the PTMGRMD program on enhancing the English language skills of village communities?
4. What are the benefits of the PTMGRMD program for enhancing English students' competencies?

## B. Metodologi Penelitian

This research employs a descriptive research method, which aims to describe existing phenomena or conditions based on data obtained from research subjects. This Research uses a Qualitative Descriptive Analysis Technique.

Another method used in this research is direct observation and interviews with village residents who participate in English language learning. These residents are elementary school children in Citali Village. Additionally, students from other study programs participating in the PTMGRMD activities in Citali Village also use English in their daily conversations to enhance their language skills. Therefore, these students are also interviewed as part of the research.

### **Research Instruments**

The research instruments used are Observation Sheets to record observations during English language learning sessions and daily interactions, and Interview Guides structured questions for interviewing elementary school children and PTMGRMD participants.

### **Collecting Data**

This research employs a descriptive research method, which aims to describe existing phenomena or conditions based on data obtained from research subjects. The research uses a Qualitative Descriptive Analysis Technique. Data collection techniques used in this research include Direct Observation, Interviews, and Literature Study and Library Research. Data is gathered from various sources such as books, scientific journals, e-books, and articles on websites. The collected data is read and noted for further processing as research material. These techniques provide a comprehensive understanding of the implementation and effects of the PTMGRMD program on the English language skills of the village community.

### **Analysis Data**

The collected research data is then analyzed by conducting a conceptual examination of the statements, aiming to obtain clarity about the meaning contained within those statements. Data analysis techniques are supported by several discussions that the researcher obtained through the literature study method from various scholarly works.

## **C. Hasil Penelitian dan Pembahasan**

### **Implementation of PTMGRMD to Improve English Language Skills**

This research was conducted to understand how students in the PTMGRMD program implemented efforts to improve English language skills among the residents of Desa Citali. In practice, this research involved teaching English lessons in local schools. The students also organized an English Club to gather the children of Desa Citali, where they learned English together. In the club, they focused on learning everyday vocabulary commonly used by the village children. The methods used in teaching English included various approaches, such as learning through English songs, using objects around them, and learning through games.

Based on the research findings, it was discovered that elementary school children in Desa Citali remembered English words more quickly when these words were set to songs they memorized. As an initial introduction to English, we can use English songs. This is one way to incorporate language elements into students' minds so that they become accustomed to hearing the words sung in the song. Using singing/songs as a medium is one approach to facilitate English language learning. Considering that English is a foreign language in Indonesia, the learning process certainly requires appropriate and effective approaches. (Pamungkas & Tohir, 2023). These songs helped children remember vocabulary more easily and enjoyably. However, there were challenges because, although the children could pronounce English words, they often did not remember how to write the words or sentences. This issue arose due to the differences between English spelling and pronunciation.

Introducing English properly should be supported by adequate facilities and infrastructure. Teachers, as key players in the learning process, need to understand children's cognitive frameworks to manage lessons effectively. The use of instructional media is one way to create meaningful and enjoyable English language learning experiences for children. (Apsari et al., 2020) Meanwhile, when learning English through objects around them, the children tended to forget quickly. Therefore, the use of this vocabulary needed to be done routinely every day to be more effective. Additionally, the children were very enthusiastic about learning through games. Learning using games was perceived as much more enjoyable and helped them interact more actively, thereby increasing their motivation to learn English. This method not

only made the learning process more fun but also strengthened their memory of the vocabulary learned.

Students from various programs participating in PTMGRMD actively used English in their daily interactions with the villagers and among themselves. They implemented English language education through structured lessons in schools and extracurricular activities like the English Club. In these settings, they encouraged elementary school children to use English by incorporating everyday vocabulary and conversational phrases into their routines. Additionally, students from different academic backgrounds collaborated, often using English as a common language to communicate and coordinate their activities. This not only helped improve their own English language skills but also provided a practical environment for the villagers, especially the children, to practice and hear English regularly.

### **Effects of the PTMGRMD Program on Village Communities**

Based on the results of interviews with children participating in English language learning sessions, it was found that they showed enthusiasm and a high interest in learning English. The children enjoyed interactive learning methods such as songs and games. There was a significant improvement in the children's English language skills, particularly in pronunciation and understanding basic vocabulary. Learning through songs was proven effective in helping them remember words better. However, challenges still exist in terms of spelling and writing words correctly.

Interviews with students involved in the PTMGRMD program revealed that the experience of teaching and interacting with village children enriched their teaching skills. They felt more confident in using English in everyday situations. The routine use of English in daily activities has improved the overall English language proficiency of students. They have become more fluent in speaking and more adept at teaching English concepts to children.

The PTMGRMD program has not only had a positive impact on children and students but also on the village community as a whole. The villagers have become more open to using English and are beginning to feel more confident in communicating using the language. This opens up new opportunities for them in terms of education and employment in the future.

### **Benefits of PTMGRMD for Enhancing English Students' Competencies**

Students majoring in English education who are involved in this program reap many benefits, such as improved teaching skills and the ability to adapt to various creative and interactive learning methods. Through direct teaching experience in the village, students can hone their practical teaching skills. Moreover, the routine use of English in daily interactions helps enhance their English language proficiency, both in terms of pronunciation and comprehension.

Students from various disciplines participating in this program also benefit from using English in real-life situations. They learn to communicate effectively in English, which enhances their language skills and aids in interdisciplinary collaboration. This program creates opportunities for students from different majors to work together. For example, engineering students may collaborate with education students on projects requiring strong communication skills in English, such as explaining technical concepts to children or villagers.

The long-term benefits of this program include improved English language skills that can open up career opportunities for students and give them a competitive edge in the workforce. For the village community, this program instills important foundations in English language learning that can be further developed. Programs like the English Club and the use of English in daily activities can continue and become an integral part of education in the village, thus increasing educational and employment opportunities for future generations.

## **D. Kesimpulan**

From the results of the analysis collected by researchers, it can be concluded that This research indicates that the implementation of the PTMGRMD program in Desa Citali through English language teaching in schools and English Club activities has successfully enhanced the English language skills of village children. Teaching methods involving songs, everyday objects, and games have proven effective, although there are challenges in terms of spelling words.

Students from various study programs participating in this program use English in their daily interactions, which helps them improve their language skills while providing a practical environment for village children to practice English regularly.

The positive impact of this program is evident not only on children but also on the involved students and the entire village community. Children experience significant improvements in pronunciation and understanding of basic vocabulary, while students gain valuable teaching experience and increased confidence in using English. The village community also begins to feel more confident using English, opening up new opportunities in education and employment. The long-term benefits of this program include improved English language skills that provide a competitive advantage for students and a strong foundation for further English language development in the village, which can enhance community well-being in the future.

#### Daftar Pustaka

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