

ABSTRACT

Naufal Prasetya, Ilham. The Influence of Playing Online Games on Vocabulary Mastery at the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 23 Purworejo in the Academic Year of 2024/2025. A Thesis, English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Educational Sciences, Muhammadiyah University of Purworejo, 2025.

Vocabulary mastery remains an essential component in English learning, yet many students still experience difficulties due to low motivation and limited exposure in traditional classroom settings. One potential factor that may influence vocabulary development is the increasing use of online games among students.

The aims of this research are: (1) to describe the frequency of playing online games among the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 23 Purworejo, (2) to describe students' vocabulary mastery, and (3) to explain whether there is a significant influence of playing online games to students' vocabulary mastery in the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 23 Purworejo

This research employed a quantitative design, particularly an influence study. The population consisted of eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 23 Purworejo, with a total sample of 32 students.

The results showed that 24 students (75%) were categorized in the always category of playing online games with a mean score of 85. Meanwhile, 22 students or 69% achieved vocabulary scores between 80–100 with a mean score of 85.22, which falls into the very good category. The Pearson correlation test indicated a very strong and significant relationship between gaming frequency and vocabulary mastery ($r = 0.841$, $p = 0.000 < 0.05$). Regression analysis revealed that 70.7% of students' vocabulary mastery was influenced by online gaming frequency, while 29.3% was influenced by other factors.

Based on these findings, it can be concluded that the frequency of playing online games has a significant positive influence on students' vocabulary mastery at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 23 Purworejo in the academic year of 2024/2025.

Keywords : online games, vocabulary mastery, influence.

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