

UNIVERSITY TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE INFLUENCE OF SPELLING-CHECKERS ON STUDENTS'
ABILITY TO GENERATE REPAIRS OF SPELLING ERRORS**

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This dissertation is submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
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DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulation of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as reference work. This topic has not been submitted to any academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification

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ABSTRACT

Recent studies show that spell-checkers help reduce students' surface error in writing by flagging spelling errors and giving correct spelling suggestions. However, are the error corrections provided by spelling checkers internalised by students? This study investigated whether the presence of spelling-checkers influenced students' abilities to repair spelling errors. A quasi-experimental two groups study was conducted on 30 Form 1 students, one with spelling-checkers, and one without. The students were given dictations which contained target words. The checker helped the students revise their spelling. However, after the use of spelling checkers, students still made the same errors in their spelling. The findings suggest that spell-checkers have very little influence on students' abilities to repair spelling errors.

ABSTRAK

'Spelling-Checker' membantu mengurangkan kesilapan luaran atau 'surface error' pelajar dalam penulisan Bahasa Inggeris. Walaubagaimanapun, adakah 'spelling-checker' ini berkesan dalam membetulkan kesilapan pelajar pada tahap kognitif? Kajian ini mengkaji tentang pengaruh 'spelling-checker' ke atas kebolehan pelajar memulih kesilapan ejaan mereka. Kajian quasi-eksperimental dilakukan ke atas 30 pelajar Tingkatan 1, satu kumpulan dibenarkan mengguna 'spelling-checker' dan satu kumpulan lagi tidak. Pelajar diberi ujian yang mengandungi perkataan yang telah dikenalpasti oleh pengkaji untuk dianalisa. 'Spelling-Checker' ini telah membantu pelajar memperbetulkan ejaan mereka di dalam computer. Walaubagaimanapun, selepas penggunaannya, pelajar didapati masih membuat kesilapan yang sama dalam ejaan mereka. Kajian ini membuktikan bahawa 'spelling-checker' tidak mempengaruhi pelajar memperbetulkan kesilapan ejaan secara kognitif.

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