

**A STUDY ON STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN LEARNING
ENGLISH SKILLS AT SMA SINAR KASIH SINTANG:
STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVES ON ENGLISH LEARNING
THESIS**

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STATEMENT OF WORKS' ORIGINALITY

Except where references are made in the text of the thesis, this thesis contains no material published elsewhere or extracted in whole or in part from thesis or any other degree diploma.

No other work has been used Without due acknowledgement in the main text in the thesis.

This thesis has not been submitted for award of any diploma degree in any other tertiary institution.

All research procedures reported in this thesis were approved by the researcher's advisors and did not break any faculty or university research ethics.

Sintang, 18 July 2025



Oktavianus Edi

MOTTO

In the Name of Jesus Christ

“I begin with the Name of the Lord Jesus and with full confidence end with the word Amen”.

“I was pushed hard and fell, but the Lord helped me”.

(Psalm 118:13)

“Don't be afraid, just believe”.

(Mark 5:6)

"I know that You can do all things, and that no plan of Yours can be thwarted”.

(Job 42:2)

“Don't be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God”.

(Philippians 4:6)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated and gratefully addressed by the researcher to the beloved parents, Yulius Tian and Kristina Anita, who always pray for the researcher, give endless support, and encouragement. The researcher also expresses sincere thanks to the extended family and friends who always provide support in various forms, enabling the researcher to complete this thesis successfully.

ABSTRACT

Oktavianus Edi. 2025, A Study on Students' Difficulties in Learning English skills at SMA Sinar Kasih Sintang: Perspectives by students on English Learning. Thesis, English Education Study Program STKIP Persada Khatulistiwa. Advisor I: Sijono, M.Pd, Advisor II: Ferdinanda Itu Meo, M.Pd.

Keywords: students' difficulties, English skills, student perspectives

This research aims to analyze the difficulties faced by students in learning English skills and to explore their perspectives on the English learning process at SMA Sinar Kasih Sintang. The study employs a descriptive qualitative method with a survey type design, using questionnaires and interviews as the main instruments for data collection. The respondents consist of 47 students from class X, XI, and XII. The questionnaire includes 19 statements using a Likert scale, and interviews were conducted using purposive sampling techniques to gain deeper insights into students' experiences. The findings reveal that students face various challenges in learning the four main English skills listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Among these, speaking is identified as the most difficult skill due to students' fear of making mistakes and lack of confidence. Writing difficulties are related to organizing ideas, grammar, and vocabulary. Listening challenges include understanding fast speech and unfamiliar words, while reading difficulties stem from limited vocabulary and difficulty understanding main ideas. The data also show that students' perspectives on English learning are influenced by motivation, learning strategies, classroom environment, and their confidence levels. Most students agree that English is important for their future academic and career goals. The study concludes that although students face significant difficulties in learning English, they are aware of its importance and express a willingness to improve. The researcher recommends that teachers adopt engaging teaching methods, schools provide more learning resources, and students be encouraged to practice English in daily life. Future researchers are suggested to focus on specific skills or external factors affecting English learning for more in-depth analysis.

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The researcher realizes that this thesis still has shortcomings both in terms of content and preparation. Therefore, the researcher really hopes for constructive criticism and suggestions to improve this research in the future. Hopefully this thesis can provide benefits, both for the world of education, especially in English language learning, and for readers who are interested in this research. Finally, the researcher hopes that this study can be a valuable reference for educators and other researchers who want to explore innovative strategies in improving students' reading comprehension. Hopefully, this research contributes to improving teaching methodologies and developing more effective and engaging learning environments for students.

Sintang, 18 July 2025

The Researcher

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