UNVEILING STUDENT PERSPECTIVES: EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF GAMIFICATION IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

S. Rizal Yazid

Madrasah Aliyah Negeri 2 Malang, Malang, Indonesia. rizalyazid1982@gmail.com

Dwi Fita Heriyawati

Universitas Islam Malang, Postgraduate Program, Indonesia dwifitaheriyawati@unisma.ac.id

Junaidi Mistar

Universitas Islam Malang, Postgraduate Program, Indonesia j.mistar@unisma.ac.id

APA Citation: Yazid, S. R., Heriyawati, D. F., & Mistar, J. (2024). Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching. *English Review: Journal of English Education*, 12(1), 137-148. https://doi.org/10.25134/erjee.v12i1.9371

```
Received: 10-10-2023
```

Accepted: 14-12-2023

Published: 28-02-2024

Abstract: This study examines the impact of gamification on English language teaching, focusing on student engagement, motivation, and overall learning experiences. To address a research gap in understanding the specific effects of gamified learning environments in this context, this qualitative research adopts a case study design, employing semi-structured interviews with ten students attending Islamic Senior High Schools. Thematic analysis reveals three main themes: Positive Impact on Engagement and Attitude, Motivation Through Competition, and Effective and Enjoyable Learning Activities. Participants have observed increased class attendance, a boost in their enthusiasm, and positive attitudes toward learning English, attributing these changes to gamification. The findings indicate that gamification not only positively has a beneficial impact on both student engagement and motivation but also enhances the overall learning environment. Implications for educators and policymakers involve the potential integration of gamified strategies to create dynamic, attractive language learning environments. The study provides new insights into the existing body of knowledge on the use of gamification in education, emphasizing the need for future investigation into its long-term effects on language competency and cultural contexts.

Keywords: English language teaching; gamification; motivation; student engagement.

INTRODUCTION

The utilization of gamification in the field of education has received significant recognition in recent times, indicating a more widespread trend toward progressive and student-centered teaching methodologies, with diverse effects on different aspects of education, such as student engagement, motivation, and learning outcomes (Ahmad et al., 2020; Smiderle et al., 2020). Numerous studies (Bouchrika et al., 2021; Duggal et al., 2021; Tsay et al., 2020; Q. Zhang & Yu, 2022) have repeatedly demonstrated that the integration of game components, including challenges, prizes, and interactive feedback systems, can greatly student augment engagement and active participation in the educational process. Moreover, there is a correlation between gamification and heightened motivation. especially in academic disciplines that are typically perceived as difficult or less engaging

(CanMese, 2019; Thurairasu, 2022; Yildiz et al., 2021). The increase in motivation is frequently ascribed to the intrinsic pleasure and feeling of accomplishment that students obtain from gamified educational experiences. Gamification has emerged as a potent strategy to tackle the persistent problem of student disengagement, which can impede the efficacy of traditional instructional methods (Ensmann & Whiteside, 2022; Omar et al., 2022; Pendy, 2023).

In the field of gamification, studies continually highlight the capacity of this approach to generate favorable impacts on educational achievements. The strategic incorporation of gamification into the educational curriculum has been shown to enhance students' understanding, memory, and practical utilization of information (Asmolov & Ledentsov, 2023; Lutfi et al., 2023). The interactive aspect of gamified learning environments fosters active

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

involvement and the practical application of newly gained skills and knowledge. Furthermore, the integration of gamified features frequently results in an increased perception of autonomy and mastery, which are fundamental aspects of self-determined learning (Dichev et al., 2020; Dumas Reyssier et al., 2023; Grabner-Hagen & Kingsley, 2023). These various aspects collectively contribute to an enriched learning experience and, as a result, lead to more positive learning outcomes.

of gamification The integration into educational discussions reflects larger а movement in educational approaches toward learner-centered pedagogies (Olugbenga, 2021), which aim to revitalize conventional instructional methods. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in scholarly investigations into the complex dynamics of gamification, which has shed light on its potential as a tool for transformative purposes in the field of education. Significantly, research has shed light on the various ways in which gamified learning environments, which incorporate aspects such as competition, challenges, and quick feedback, promote increased student engagement and participation (Adams & Du Preez, 2022; Alsubhi et al., 2019; Wulantari et al., 2023; Qiao et al., 2023). This phenomenon, frequently described as a state of deep involvement and personal empowerment, tackles a prevalent issue in the field of education, which is how to maintain learner engagement and active participation. In addition, the integration of gamification into interfaces educational aligns with the technological preferences of modern students, capitalizing on their inclination towards interactive and digital experiences. Therefore, the incorporation of gamification serves as a crucial solution to address the changing educational requirements in the era of digital advancements (Farooq et al., 2022; Pramesworo et al., 2023; Lampropoulos et al., 2022; Nikitina & Ishchenko, 2023).

Existing scholarly literature conducted by Ahmad et al. (2020), Smiderle et al. (2020), Bouchrika et al. (2021), Duggal et al. (2021), and Tsay et al. (2020) offer rich insights into the effects of gamification on student engagement and motivation in the field of education. However, there is a significant gap in the context of English specifically language teaching, within the educational framework of Indonesia, especially at the Islamic senior high school in Kabupaten Malang. Previous research as discussed in prior examining individual viewpoints, allowing for a

paragraphs, which includes investigations by CanMese (2019), Thurairasu (2022), and Yildiz et al. (2021), has primarily concentrated on wider educational settings or particular academic disciplines, resulting in a notable gap in the investigation of the effectiveness of gamification in the realm of English language teaching. This study aims to address the existing disparity by performing a customized inquiry that corresponds to the distinct linguistic and cultural factors involved in the teaching of English.

Furthermore, this qualitative study thoroughly investigates the perspectives of students on the implementation of gamification in English language teaching. This study is also aimed to reveal an extensive comprehension of how engage with and comprehend students components, gamification examining their experiences, preferences, and difficulties. This study seeks to explore the impact of gamification tactics on students' learning experiences by delving into the diverse range of opinions among students. This is achieved through the utilization of in-depth interviews, questionnaires, and observational methodologies. By employing these research techniques, the study provides a nuanced understanding of the diverse effects of gamification in the context of English language education. In light of this, the central question of this research is, "How do students perceive and engage with gamification in the context of English language teaching at an Islamic senior high school?

METHOD

subsequent The sections provide а comprehensive account of the study design, the process of selecting participants and collecting data, the analytical methods employed, and the factors to be taken into account to ensure the reliability and credibility of qualitative research.

In this study, a qualitative research methodology was used to effectively correspond with the investigation of individual experiences and viewpoints (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The complex nature of comprehending the influence of gamification in the context of English language instruction required the use of qualitative approaches. especially semistructured interviews. This research adopts a case study design to thoroughly explore students' experiences with gamification in English language teaching. The selection of a case study design is based on its appropriateness for comprehensive investigation of gamification's influence on student motivation and engagement (Takahashi & Araujo, 2020). This methodology facilitates transparent and sincere dialogues, enabling participants to genuinely express their opinions within the specific context of the study (Ebneyamini & Sadeghi Moghadam, 2018).

Ten students from Islamic Senior High Schools in Kabupaten Malang, East Java, Indonesia, were chosen on purpose based on factors related to the study's goals. To give a holistic view of the impact of gamification, selection factors included differences in English skill levels. To keep things interesting, the participants had already been in gamified learning settings before. A wide range of English language learners in the specific setting of interest were in the group of participants.

The study adhered carefully to ethical standards (Drolet et al., 2023). The researcher acquired express consent from the principals of schools, ensuring their approval. Participants actively participated in the ethical process by thoroughly reading, comprehending, and signing a permission form that emphasized the voluntary nature of their involvement and the freedom to leave without facing any negative repercussions. To ensure the protection of secrecy, pseudonyms allocated to each participant were and systematically employed in all paperwork. The students' information is presented in Table 1.

Pseudonym	Age	Grade	Gender Identity	English Proficiency	Gamification Experience
Dian	17	Senior High School 11	Female	Intermediate	Gamification contributing to renewed interest in English learning
Aditya	16	Senior High School 10	Male	Intermediate	Positive perception of gamified learning as refreshing and effective
Putri	18	Senior High School 12	Female	Intermediate	Fun and interesting experience with gamified learning in English class
Rizky	17	Senior High School 11	Male	Intermediate	Positive response to learning through games in English class
Bunga	16	Senior High School 10	Female	Intermediate	View of playing video games as a fun method for learning English
Andika	18	Senior High School 12	Male	Intermediate	Enthusiastic response to gamification, considering it a fantastic idea
Siti	17	Senior High School 11	Female	Intermediate	Acknowledgment of the fun and engaging twist gamification adds
Fajar	16	Senior High School 10	Male	Intermediate	Positive opinion on gamified learning, injecting excitement into the process
Rina	18	Senior High School 12	Female	Intermediate	Consideration of gamified learning as a cool idea, emphasizing enthusiasm
Galang	17	Senior High School 11	Male	Intermediate	Recognition of learning through gaming as an enjoyable method, boosting enthusiasm
Dian	17	Senior High School 11	Female	Intermediate	Gamification contributing to renewed interest in English learning

Table 1. Students' information

Semi-structured interviews were carried out primary focus on motivation and engagement. The between November 13th and November 17th, talks were directed by a series of 10 open-ended 2023. The interviews were conducted to elicit questions. Every interview, which was performed participants' perspectives on gamification, with a in Bahasa Indonesia, had a duration of around 15-

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

30 minutes to facilitate a thorough investigation. translations, participants were sent an invitation to The interviews were systematically recorded, offer comments and recommendations for transcribed, and subsequently translated into enhancement. The example and focus of the English to facilitate further investigation questions are presented in Table 2. (Rosenthal, 2016). To guarantee the precision of

	Table 2. Questions and	Table 2. Questions and their focus						
No	Questions	Question focus						
1	Can you describe your experience with gamified	Reflection on personal experience with						
	learning environments in your English language	gamified learning in English classes						
	classes?							
2	What aspects of gamification do you find most	Identification of engaging and motivating						
	engaging or motivating in your English language	elements in gamification						
	learning?							
3	In your opinion, how has gamification influenced	Assessment of the impact of gamification on						
	your level of participation and interaction during	participation and interaction						
	English language lessons?							
4	Have you noticed any changes in your attitudes or	Exploration of changes in attitudes or feelings						
	feelings towards learning English due to the	toward learning English resulting from						
	implementation of gamification? If so, could you	gamification						
	elaborate on these changes?							
5	Can you recall a specific activity or instance within a	Identification of specific effective or enjoyable						
	gamified lesson that you found particularly effective	gamified activities and their characteristics						
	or enjoyable for learning English? What made it							
	stand out to you?							
6	Are there any challenges or difficulties you've	Discussion of challenges faced and strategies						
	encountered while engaging with gamification in	employed to overcome them in gamified						
	English language classes? How have you addressed	learning						
	or overcome these challenges?							
7	How do you perceive the relationship between	Evaluation of the connection between gamification and overall language						
	gamification and your overall performance in							
	learning English? Do you feel it has positively	performance, considering positive impacts						
	impacted your language proficiency?							
8	Could you share any suggestions or ideas for	Offering recommendations for enhancing the						
	improving the integration of gamification in English	integration of gamification in English						
	language teaching to enhance the learning	language teaching						
9	experience?	Comparison of loaming ownerionass between						
9	Have you observed differences in your learning	Comparison of learning experiences between						
	experiences between gamified and traditional	gamified and traditional teaching approaches						
10	teaching methods? If so, what are those differences? Is there anything else you'd like to add regarding	Opportunity for additional comments or						
10	your experiences with gamification in English	insights related to gamification experiences in						
	language learning?	English language learning						
Th								
		and over again, emerging themes were						
		coved and proven to accurately capture the						
	(Husband, 2020) ensuring confidentiality. core of the data. This interactive and inductive							
Thematic analysis was employed to identify, method made it easier to dig deeper into the								
analyze, and report patterns within the data. This material by enabling themes come up naturally								
	involved a systematic process of familiarization, from the answers of the participants. ' After							
codin	coding, theme development, and constant putting all the interview data into categories, three							
	ariana (Adapter Olater de Colonile 2021) mais	themas were found. These themas						

comparison (Adeoye-Olatunde & Olenik, 2021). main themes were In this study, the researcher did several actions encompass (1) Positive Impact on Engagement using an inductive theme analysis. The first step and was to get involved with the data by reading and rereading the interview records. After that, the researcher used a coding method to systematically find patterns and ideas that were related to the participants' experiences. By comparing things

е e r е found. These themes Attitude, (2) Motivation Through Competition, and (3) Effective and Enjoyable Learning Activities. The example of data analysis is presented in Table 3.

Quotes of Participants	Codes	Themes			
"Our English classes have seen a significant increase	Increased	Positive Impact on Engagement			
in attendance since our teacher started using a	attendance	and Attitude			
teaching method focused on playing games."					
"What gets my attention is the competition part. I'm	Attention	Motivation Through			
motivated to do better because of it."	through	Competition			
	competition	-			
"This was a game in which we used English terms. It	Engaging use of	Effective and Enjoyable			
was entertaining, and it aided me in recalling details."	English terms	Learning Activities			

 Table 3. Example of data analysis

Rigor and trustworthiness

Ethics were the most important thing to think about during the whole study process. To enhance trustworthiness, all subjects gave their informed permission, confirming that they were aware of study's objectives, their voluntary the involvement, and confidentiality safeguards (Roshaidai & Arifin, 2018). Participants played an active role in reviewing and validating the findings, ensuring the accuracy of the researcher's interpretations of their experiences, and empowering their contribution to the study's credibility (Motulsky, 2021). Additionally, we conducted systematic discussions and consultations with fellow researchers or experts in the field to enrich perspectives and enhance methodological integrity (Stahl & King, 2020). We reinforced confidentiality during data collection by using pseudonyms, collectively ethical framework fortifying the and methodological rigor of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The investigation of the experiences of individuals engaged in gamified learning settings inside English language classrooms has yielded significant findings, providing light on the diverse effects of gamification on factors such as engagement, motivation, and the holistic learning experience. By exploring various topics, the voices of participants offer perspective on the profound impacts of gamification, providing nuanced insights on its influence. The findings of this study reveal a variety of ways in which gamification influences the field of English language education. These include beneficial changes in student involvement and attitudes, the incentive that arises from competition, and the effectiveness of incorporating varied learning activities. Overall, the research provides a comprehensive understanding of how gamification impacts the English language education landscape. As we explore these thematic elements, the tales shared by the participants offer a compelling account of the

significant transformations resulting from the incorporation of gamification in their educational experiences.

Positive impact on engagement and attitude

The integration of gamification inside English language lessons had a lasting effect on the individuals involved, as demonstrated by the notably favorable influence on their levels of involvement and attitudes towards the learning process. Dian stated in an interview:

> Our English classes have seen a significant increase in attendance since our teacher started using a teaching method focused on playing games. Not only should one make an effort to study, but one should also make an effort to find joy in the act of learning.

Through her statement, she saw a significant increase in class attendance, directly linking it to the use of teaching methods centered on gamification. This sentiment resonated across participants, Aditya. He described it in an interview:

> The incorporation of game-like elements into educational settings is like a refreshing wind. It's like having fun and learning something new at the same time. It's quite awesome.

The statement showed blending enjoyment and learning seamlessly. He further described it as "having fun and learning something new at the same time," emphasizing the awe-inspiring nature of this innovative teaching method.

Moreover, the favorable trend persisted in Putri, who reported a heightened level of enjoyment in her English learning experience after the implementation of gamified components. She stated during the interview:

> My experience in English class has been more fun for me since the introduction of gamified learning. It's an interesting take on things, and I like it.

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

gamification has introduced a captivating element to traditional approaches, hence fostering a novel sense of value and recognition for the educational journey.

The aforementioned change in perspective was mirrored by Rizky and Bunga, who both conveyed the notion that incorporating gamebased learning introduced a sense of enthusiasm inside the English classroom. While Bunga the transformative power emphasized of gamification in making the learning process more enjoyable. Rizky stated in the following interview:

> It's nice to learn through games. In the English course, it is something to look forward to doing.

While Bunga added:

Bunga: Yeah, playing video games is a fun way to learn. This makes the process of learning English more fun.

Expanding upon this point, Andika and Siti captivating underscored the element that gamification brought to the realm of education. Andika stated:

> I think that learning that is based on games is a fantastic idea. Learning English becomes more engaging as a result of this addition.

Siti further emphasized the inherent enjoyment that the implementation of gamification provided to the English classroom. She expressed in the interview:

> The twist that gamification adds to education is fun to experience. It is undeniable that it makes English class more interesting.

The prevailing agreement in this domain is that the implementation of gamification greatly enhances levels of engagement, resulting in a more dynamic, stimulating, and pleasurable English learning experience for the individuals involved.

Motivation through competition

The utilization of gamification in English language lessons has constantly demonstrated its effectiveness as a motivational tool, mostly through the implementation of competitive elements. The participants demonstrated an awareness of the motivating component inherent

As per her assertion, the implementation of in gamified features, especially when competition was introduced. Dian expressed a strong connection to this theme in the interview.

> What really gets my attention is the competition part. I'm motivated to do better because of it.

This acknowledgment signifies that the competitive nature of gamification serves as a driving force for participants to strive for improvement actively. Putri similarly emphasized the compelling nature of the competitive side of gamification. She noted in her interview, as follows:

> A big thing that drives people is competition. To beat myself and do better every time is like a task.

The integration of competition as а motivational tool in gamification is exemplified by the acknowledgment of personal growth as an learners objective, prompting to actively participate in the learning process and exceed their previous accomplishments.

In addition to reinforcing the overall concept, Fajar and Rina had a favorable reaction to the competitive aspects implemented via gamification. In the interview, Fajar stated:

> There's no doubt that I like the competitive side. It makes me want to do better and set bigger goals.

This statement indicates that competition is not only embraced but serves as an impetus for setting higher targets. Rina echoed this sentiment during the interview:

> When you want to find a balance between working with others and doing things on your own, it's not always easy. But it's always worth it. Working on my own progress is still important to me, but one of my main goals is to improve our individual and group abilities to work together effectively."

She is aware of the challenges present in a competitive setting and highlights the realization that effectively managing competition is an important and fulfilling component of the gamified learning experience.

Effective and enjoyable learning activities

The participants' thoughts on the implementation of gamification in English language classrooms highlighted the noticeable emergence of effective and fun learning activities. Dian observed that the utilization of interactive games using English terminology proved to be both engaging and efficacious in facilitating the retention of information. She stated in the following interview:

This was a game in which we used English terms. It was entertaining, and it aided me in recalling details. The fact that it was interactive contributed greatly to its usefulness.

This suggests that gamified activities not only engage learners but also enhance the retention of information through interactive methods. Furthermore, Aditya emphasized the significance of narrative-based tasks. He stated in the interview:

This was something that we did with English tales. I gained knowledge while also having a good time. It stood out because of the aspect of narrative.

The use of narrative elements in English language instruction has evolved as a distinct and efficacious pedagogical strategy aimed at enhancing the enjoyment and engagement of learners. Building on this, Galang highlighted the effectiveness of creative writing challenges.

> This was a challenge that required creative writing from us. It was enjoyable, and it helped me become a better writer. It was very successful due to the unique approach that was taken.

The incorporation of creative challenges not only appealed to participants' enjoyment but also contributed to the enhancement of their writing skills. Moreover, Siti emphasized the efficacy of discussing current topics. In the interview, she noted:

> We discussed a topic that is currently going on in the world. Although challenging, it worked wonders for my public speaking abilities. The structure of the debate was quite interesting and engaging.

This implies that the incorporation of pertinent and demanding tasks in gamification not only renders the educational experience pleasurable but also amplifies essential abilities like public speaking.

Overall, the integration of interactive games,

narrative-based activities, creative writing exercises, and conversations on contemporary subjects not only enhances the learning experience but also demonstrates efficacy in attaining educational goals. The diverse and stimulating character of these exercises implemented within a gamified structure enriches the educational experience for participants.

The results provide evidence of how gamification may significantly improve engagement, competition-based motivation, and the efficiency and fun of learning activities. We establish connections between these themes and previously published works of literature, which helps to contextualize our findings within the larger field of gamified education. The of established research combination and participant viewpoints underscores the diverse advantages of incorporating gamification into English language instruction. Expanding upon these realizations, the conversation not only summarizes the most important discoveries but also lays out a plan for further thought and suggestions about gamified language learning.

Positive impact on engagement and attitude

The findings reveal a unanimous agreement among participants regarding the positive influence of gamification on their engagement and overall attitude toward learning English. Most students observe the increase of class attendance the positive relationship echo between gamification and active participation, as noted in prior studies (Inayati & Waloyo, 2022; Zaric et al., 2020). The introduction of gamified teaching methods appears to have transformed the traditional classroom setting into a more dynamic appealing environment, aligning with and contemporary research that emphasizes the importance of innovative and interactive approaches in language education.

Furthermore, participants consistently expressed heightened enthusiasm and positive emotions associated with gamified learning activities. The participants highlight the emotional benefits introduced by gamification. These sentiments align with previous studies, emphasizing the positive affective impact of gamified approaches on language learners (López-Faican & Jaen, 2020; Rahayu et al., 2022). Furthermore, the unique and enjoyable aspects of gamification contribute to the creation of a positive and appealing learning atmosphere (Dian Anisa et al., 2020).

Confirming these findings with existing

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

gamification and attendance supports the idea that innovative teaching methods can enhance students' willingness to actively participate in language learning (Jääskä & Aaltonen, 2022; Pinter et al., 2020). The emotional impact of gamified learning, as evidenced by the participants' expressions of joy and excitement (Özhan & Kocadere, 2019), emphasizes on the affective benefits of gamification. Additionally, the unique and enjoyable twist identified by participants aligns with the idea of gamification adding a layer of engagement and interest (Mercer, 2019).

The findings underscore the potential of gamification to create a positive and engaging fostering increased learning environment, attendance, active participation, and positive emotions among English language learners.

Motivation through competition

The results associated with the implementation of gamification in English language learning highlight the enduring efficacy of competitive features as a means of motivating participants, manifests as a drive to enhance performance, is consistent with other scholarly investigations that highlight the motivational influence of competition within gamified environments (Li et al., 2022; Zainuddin et al., 2020). This acknowledgment indicates that the competitive aspect of gamification is crucial in motivating individuals to actively participate in the educational process and strive for ongoing development.

Participants also focus on self-improvement and striving for excellence within the context of competition serves as a prime illustration of the motivational influence of gamification. The incorporation of competition as a motivating factor not only fosters active engagement among learners but also cultivates a focus on individual performance as a central goal (O. Zhang & Yu, 2022; X. Zhang, 2021). This is also consistent with the self-determination hypothesis, which claims that tasks that are seen as hard and offer autonomy have the potential to increase intrinsic motivation (Jones et al., 2022).

The favorable responses revealed by Fajar and Rina towards the competitive elements of gamification offer further perspectives on the motivating advantages associated with such features. That competition serves as a motivator for participants is recognized to establish more ambitious objectives is consistent with the notion narrative-based

literature, the positive correlation between that rivalry may elicit individuals' drive to pursue greater effort for challenging accomplishments (Grant & Shandell, 2022; Stickels & Tranter, 2022). In addition, participants' acknowledgment of the difficulties related to maintaining a balance between cooperation and individual work within a competitive environment underscores the intricate and rewarding elements of managing competition in the context of gamified learning.

> The participants' favorable reactions to the competitive aspect of gamification align with previous research that highlights the motivating influence of competition on both engagement and performance (Bond et al., 2020). The inclusion of competitive components in gamified English language learning exercises seems to have a substantial impact on the motivation of players, as it cultivates a feeling of challenge, autonomy, and personal accomplishment.

> The results indicate that the incorporation of competition in gamification acts as a potent incentive, prompting individuals to actively participate, establish more ambitious objectives, and view problems as prospects for personal development. The comprehensive comprehension of the many facets involved in the management of competition enhances the knowledge of how competitive components contribute to the motivating dynamics within contexts that employ gamified approaches to language acquisition.

Effective and enjoyable learning activities

The findings referring to the integration of gamification in English language schools have a notable influence on the development of effective and enjoyable learning experiences. Participants' experience interactive with games with vocabulary in English underscores the concurrent advantages of active involvement and effectiveness. The incorporation of interactive elements within the games not only provided entertainment for learners but also facilitated the retention of knowledge. This aligns with the notion that gamified activities have the ability to improve learning outcomes by employing interactive approaches (Sailer & Sailer, 2021).

The alignment between participants' focus on story-based tasks as instructive and pleasant and the increasing awareness of narrative aspects in language training is evident. The integration of stories into the process of learning a language has successful recognized as a highly been instructional approach (Rong & Noor, 2019). The excellent experience that participants had with exercises indicates that

storytelling incorporating aspects into gamification enhances the learning process by making it more immersive and captivating.

affirmative reaction exhibited The by participants towards creative writing challenges highlights the efficacy of these activities in also enhancing writing proficiency. This idea is consistent with the notion that including creative activities in gamification has the potential to enhance the development of the skill. Moreover, participants' engagement in talks pertaining to contemporary subjects, regardless of certain challenges, demonstrated notable advancements in her aptitude for public speaking. This statement is consistent with the concept that engaging in challenging activities via the use of gamification might facilitate English language skills (Redjeki & Muhaiir, 2021). Siti's observation highlights the framework captivating of the discourse, suggesting that gamification has the potential to effectively cultivate crucial abilities, such as and public speaking, through well-crafted interesting tasks.

The present study's results are consistent with previous research, which has highlighted the effectiveness of gamification in enhancing their enjoyment of learning activities (Borrás-Gené et al., 2019; Wang, 2023), and adding a sense of fun and playfulness as well (Pilkington, 2018) The experiences of the participants align with the notion that the integration of gaming aspects into educational activities can bolster motivation and interest, hence fostering more efficacious learning experiences.

CONCLUSION

The main objective of this study was to investigate the effects of gamification on English language education. Specifically, the focus was on examining the influence of gamified learning environments on student engagement, motivation, and the overall learning experience.

The study's findings shed light on the significant effect of gamification in English language education. Participants regularly reported experiencing heightened engagement, motivation, and the growth of effective and enjoyable learning activities as a result of competition. The use of gamification not only had a beneficial impact on attendance but also enhanced the learning environment by creating a more dynamic and engaging atmosphere. This, in turn, fostered enthusiasm and enjoyment in the learning process as a whole.

immediate boundaries of the classroom environment. Gamification in language education can improve student engagement, motivation, and the efficacy of learning activities. Education professionals decision-makers and could contemplate incorporating gamified strategies to enhance language teaching and provide a more favorable and attractive learning atmosphere.

This study adds to the expanding compilation of literature on the implementation of gamification in the field of education, particularly in the context of teaching English. This research highlights the importance of innovative teaching approaches in promoting positive attitudes toward learning by offering detailed insights into the experiences of students in gamified environments.

Although this study made careful and thorough attempts, it recognizes particular limitations. The exclusive emphasis on English language instruction within a particular cultural framework might restrict the applicability of the results. Moreover, the dependence on data provided by individuals themselves raises the potential for social desirability bias. Subsequent investigations should attempt to overcome these constraints by utilizing varied samples and employing mixedmethods methodologies.

further Subsequent investigations might examine the enduring impacts of gamification on language proficiency and retention, based on the existing studies. Conducting comparative research in various cultural contexts and educational levels will enhance our understanding of how gamified techniques might be applied and their efficacy. Furthermore, doing research on the viewpoints of educators and examining the most effective ways to include gamification in curriculum design are potential areas for further investigation.

The findings have practical relevance for practitioners. educators and Integrating gamification strategies in language training can act as a catalyst for heightened student engagement and motivation. The development of a variety of engaging educational tasks inside a game-based structure is in line with modern teaching methods that prioritize the use of dynamic and interactive instructional techniques.

To summarize, this research highlights the capacity of gamification to transform English language education by promoting favorable learning encounters. As educators and policymakers explore new methods, the incorporation of gamification appears as an achievable means to create dynamic, attractive, as The implications of our research extend the well as effective language learning environments.

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the participants who kindly dedicated their time, and personal experiences to this research. Your active participation in the study was important in the effective accomplishment of this project. In addition, we would like to extend our appreciation to my advisor, for the invaluable assistance, and knowledge. The contribution greatly enhanced the Dian Anisa, K., Marmanto, S., & Supriyadi, S. (2020). quality of this research.

REFERENCES

- Adams, S. P., & Du Preez, R. (2022). Supporting student engagement through the gamification of learning activities: A design-based research approach. Technology, Knowledge and Learning. 27(1), 119-138. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10758-021-09500-x
- Adeoye-Olatunde, O. A., & Olenik, N. L. (2021). Research and scholarly methods: Semistructured interviews. JACCP: Journal of The American College of Clinical Pharmacy, 4(10), 1358-1367.
- https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1002/jac5.1441 Ahmad, A., Zeshan, F., Khan, M. S., Marriam, R., Ali, A., & Samreen, A. (2020). The impact of gamification on learning outcomes of computer science majors. ACM Trans. Comput. Educ., 20(2). https://doi.org/10.1145/3383456
- Alsubhi, M. A., Ashaari, N. S., & Wook, T. S. M. T. (2019). The challenge of increasing student engagement in e-learning platforms. 2019 International Conference on Electrical Engineering and Informatics (ICEEI), 266–271. https://doi.org/10.1109/ICEEI47359.2019.8988 908
- Asmolov, A., & Ledentsov, A. (2023). Impact on effectiveness educational using digital gamification. Startupreneur **Bisnis** Digital (SABDA, 2(1). https://doi.org/10.34306/sabda.v2i1.252
- Bond, M., Buntins, K., Bedenlier, S., Zawacki-Richter, O., & Kerres, M. (2020). Mapping research in student engagement and educational technology in higher education: a systematic evidence map. International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education, 17(1), 2. https://doi.org/10.1186/s41239-019-0176-8
- Borrás-Gené, O., Martínez-Núñez, M., & Martín-Fernández, L. (2019). Enhancing fun through gamification to improve engagement in MOOC. Informatics, 6(3).https://doi.org/10.3390/informatics6030028
- Bouchrika, I., Harrati, N., Wanick, V., & Wills, G. (2021). Exploring the impact of gamification on student engagement and involvement with e-Learning learning systems. Interactive Environments, 29(8), 1244-1257.

https://doi.org/10.1080/10494820.2019.162326

- CanMese, O. O. (2019). Effectiveness of gamification elements in blended learning environments. Journal, 20(3), 119-142.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (H. Salmon, C. Neve, & M. O'Heffernan, Eds.; 5th ed., Vol. 5). SAGE Publications, Inc.
- The effect of gamification on students' motivation in learning English. Leksika, 14(1), 22 - 28.
- Dichev, C., Dicheva, D., & Irwin, K. (2020). Gamifying learning for learners. International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education, 17(1), 54 https://doi.org/10.1186/s41239-020-00231-0
- Drolet, M.-J., Rose-Derouin, E., Leblanc, J.-C., Ruest, M., & Williams-Jones, B. (2023). Ethical issues in research: perceptions of researchers, research ethics board members and research ethics experts. Journal of Academic Ethics, 21(2), 269-292.
- Duggal, K., Singh, P., & Gupta, L. R. (2021). Impact of gamification, games, and game elements in education. In P. K. Singh, Z. Polkowski, S. Tanwar, S. K. Pandey, G. Matei, & D. Pirvu (Eds.), Innovations in Information and Communication Technologies (IICT-2020) (pp. 201–210). Springer International Publishing.
- Dumas Reyssier, S., Serna, A., Hallifax, S., Marty, J.-C., Simonian, S., & Lavoué, E. (2023). How does adaptive gamification impact different types of student motivation over time? Interactive Learning Environments, 1–20. https://doi.org/10.1080/10494820.2023.224822 0
- Ebneyamini, S., & Sadeghi Moghadam, M. R. (2018). Toward developing a framework for conducting case study research. International Journal of Qualitative Methods, 17(1), 1609406918817954.
- Ensmann, S., & Whiteside, A. (2022). "It helped to know i wasn't alone": Exploring student satisfaction in an online community with a gamified, social media-like instructional approach. Online Learning, 26(3), 22-45.
- Farooq, M. S., Hamid, A., Alvi, A., & Omer, U. (2022). Blended learning models, curricula, and gamification in project management education. IEEE Access. 10. 60341-60361. https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2022.3180355
- Grabner-Hagen, M. M., & Kingsley, T. (2023). From badges to boss challenges: Gamification through need-supporting scaffolded design to instruct and motivate elementary learners. Computers and Education Open, 4, 100131. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.caeo.20

ENGLISH REVIEW: Journal of English Education Volume 12, Issue 1, February 2024

23.100131

- Grant, A. M., & Shandell, M. S. (2022). Social Nikitina, I., & Ishchenko, T. (2023). Smart-systems in motivation at work: The organizational psychology of effort for, against, and with others. Annual Review of Psychology, 73(1), 301-326. https://doi.org/10.1146/annurevpsych-060321-033406
- Husband, G. (2020). Ethical data collection and recognizing the impact of semi-structured interviews on research respondents. Education Omar, M., Ali, D. F., Md Adam, N. A. I., & Saari, M. Sciences. 10(8). https://doi.org/10.3390/educsci10080206
- Inayati, N., & Waloyo, A. A. (2022). The influence of Quizziz-online gamification on learning engagement and outcomes in online English Foreign Language, 12(2), 249-271. https://doi.org/10.23971/jefl.v12i2.3546
- Jääskä, E., & Aaltonen, K. (2022). Teachers' experiences of using game-based learning methods in project management higher https://doi.org/10.1016/j.plas.2022.100041
- Jones, M., Blanton, J. E., & Williams, R. E. (2022). intrinsic motivation? Active Learning in Higher Education, 24(3), 273-289. https://doi.org/10.1177/14697874211066882
- Lampropoulos, G., Keramopoulos, E., Diamantaras, K., & Evangelidis, G. (2022). Augmented reality and gamification in education: A Pinter, R., Maravić Čisar, S., Balogh, Z., & systematic literature review of research, applications, and empirical studies. In Applied Sciences (Switzerland) (Vol. 12, Issue 13). MDPI. https://doi.org/10.3390/app12136809
- Li, X., Xia, Q., Chu, S. K. W., & Yang, Y. (2022). Using gamification to facilitate students' selfregulation in e-learning: A case study on students' L2 English learning. Sustainability (Switzerland). 14(12). https://doi.org/10.3390/su14127008
- López-Faican, L., & Jaen, J. (2020). EmoFindAR: Evaluation of a mobile multiplayer augmented reality game for primary school children. Computers & Education, 149, 103814. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.comped u.2020.103814
- Lutfi, A., Aftinia, F., & Permani, B. E. (2023). gamification: game as a medium for learning chemistry to motivate and increase retention of students' learning outcomes. Journal of Technology and Science Education, 13(1), 193- Rahayu, F. S., Nugroho, L. E., Ferdiana, R., & 207. https://doi.org/10.3926/jotse.1842
- Mercer, S. (2019). Language learner engagement: Setting the scene. In X. Gao (Ed.), Second Handbook of English Language Teaching (pp. 643-660). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-02899-2 40
- Motulsky, S. L. (2021). Is member checking the gold Redjeki, I. S., & Muhajir, R. (2021). Gamification in standard of quality in qualitative research?

Qualitative Psychology, 8(3), 389.

- 325-335). education stem (pp. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-48325-7_25
- Olugbenga, M. (2021). The learner centered method and their needs in teaching. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Explorer.

https://doi.org/10.1016/IJMRE.2021831851

- A. (2022). Gamification in vocational teaching and learning: Perception and readiness among lecturers. International Journal of Education, 140. 14(1). https://doi.org/10.5296/ije.v14i1.19507
- language teaching. Journal on English as a Özhan, Ş. Ç., & Kocadere, S. A. (2019). The effects of flow, emotional engagement, and motivation on success in a gamified online learning environment. Journal Educational of Computing Research, 57(8), 2006-2031. https://doi.org/10.1177/0735633118823159
- education. Project Leadership and Society, 3. Pendy, B. (2023). From traditional to tech-infused: the evolution of education. BULLET: Jurnal Multidisiplin Ilmu, 2(3), 767–777.
- Science to practice: Does gamification enhance Pilkington, C. (2018). A playful approach to fostering motivation in a distance education computer programming course: Behaviour change and student perceptions. In International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning (Vol. 19).
 - Manojlović, H. (2020). Enhancing higher education student class attendance through gamification. Acta Polytechnica Hungarica, 17(2), 2020–2033.
 - Pramesworo, I. S., Sembiring, D., Sarip, M., Lolang, E., & Fathurrochman, I. (2023). Identification of new approaches to information technologybased teaching for successful teaching of millennial generation entering 21st century education. Jurnal Igra': Kajian Ilmu Pendidikan, 350-370. 8(1), https://doi.org/10.25217/ji.v8i1.2722
 - S., Chu, S. K. W., & Yeung, S. S. (2023). Qiao, Understanding how gamification of English morphological analysis in a blended learning environment influences students' engagement and reading comprehension. Computer Assisted Language Learning, 1 - 34. https://doi.org/10.1080/09588221.2023.223027 3
 - Setyohadi, D. B. (2022). Motivation and engagement of final-year students when using e-learning: A qualitative study of gamification pandemic Sustainability in situation. 14(14). (Switzerland), https://doi.org/10.3390/su14148906
 - EFL classroom to support teaching and learning

Unveiling student perspectives: Exploring the impact of gamification in english language teaching

in 21st century. JEES (Journal of English Educators Society), 6(1), 68-78. https://doi.org/10.21070/jees.v6i1.882

- Rong, L. P., & Noor, N. M. (2019). Digital storytelling as a creative teaching method in promoting secondary school students' writing skills. International Journal of Interactive Mobile Technologies, 13(7), 117-128. https://doi.org/10.3991/ijim.v13i07.10798
- Rosenthal, M. (2016). Qualitative research methods: Why, when, and how to conduct interviews and focus groups in pharmacy research. Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning, 8(4), 509-516.
- Roshaidai, S., & Arifin, M. (2018). Ethical considerations in qualitative study. In International Journal of Care Scholars (Vol. 1, Issue 2).
- Sailer, M., & Sailer, M. (2021). Gamification of inclass activities in flipped classroom lectures. British Journal of Educational Technology, 52(1), 75-90. https://doi.org/10.1111/bjet.12948
- Smiderle, R., Rigo, S. J., Marques, L. B., Peçanha de Zhang, Q., & Yu, Z. (2022). Meta-analysis on Miranda Coelho, J. A., & Jaques, P. A. (2020). The impact of gamification on students' learning, engagement and behavior based on their personality traits. Smart Learning Environments, 7(1), 3. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40561-019-0098-x
- approaches for research: Understanding and using trustworthiness in qualitative research. Journal of Developmental Education, 44(1), 26 - 28.
- Stickels, A., & Tranter, A. (2022). Co-creation, gamification and motivation. In Journal of the Foundation Year Network (Vol. 5).
- Takahashi, A. R. W., & Araujo, L. (2020). Case study research: opening up research opportunities. RAUSP Management Journal, 55, 100–111.
- Thurairasu, V. (2022). Gamification-based learning as the future of language learning: An overview. European Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2(6), 62-69. https://doi.org/10.24018/ejsocial.2022.2.6.353
- Tsay, C. H.-H., Kofinas, A. K., Trivedi, S. K., & Yang, Y. (2020). Overcoming the novelty effect in online gamified learning systems: An empirical evaluation of student engagement and performance. Journal of Computer Assisted Learning, 36(2), 128-146. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1111/jcal.1238 5
- Wang, Y. C. (2023). Gamification in a news English course. Education Sciences, 13(1). https://doi.org/10.3390/educsci13010090
- Wulantari, N., Rachman, A., Nurmalia Sari, M., Jola Uktolseja, L., Rofi, A., Saraswati Tabanan, I., Pahlawan No, J., Peken, D., Tabanan, K., Tabanan, K., Halu Oleo, U. (2023). The role of

gamification in english language teaching: A literature review. Journal on Education, 06(01), 2847-2857.

- Yildiz, İ., Topçu, E., & Kaymakci, S. (2021). The effect of gamification on motivation in the education of pre-service social studies teachers. Thinking Skills and Creativity, 42, 100907. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tsc.2021 .100907
- Zainuddin, Z., Shujahat, M., Haruna, H., & Chu, S. K. W. (2020). The role of gamified e-quizzes on student learning and engagement: An interactive gamification solution for a formative assessment system. Computers & Education, 103729. 145. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.comped u.2019.103729
- Zaric, N., Lukarov, V., & Schroeder, U. (2020). A fundamental study for gamification design: tendencies' Exploring learning effects. International Journal of Serious Games, 7(4), 3-25. https://doi.org/10.17083/ijsg.v7i4.356
- investigating and comparing the effects on learning achievement and motivation for gamification and game-based learning. In Education Research International (Vol. 2022). Hindawi Limited. https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/1519880
- Stahl, N. A., & King, J. R. (2020). Expanding Zhang, X. (2021). The impact of EFL students' emotioncy level on their motivation and academic achievement: A theoretical conceptual analysis. Frontiers in Psychology, 12. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.798564