



# AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' ABILITY IN USING SUFFIXES BY USING ONLINE MEDIA QUIZLET AT GRADE X OF SMAN 2 SUNGAI PENUH

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Abstract. This research is aimed to describe the students' ability in using derivational suffixes. The research focuses on analyzing the students' ability in using four types of derivational suffixes by online media Quizlet. The design of the research is quantitative descriptive approach. The population of the research is 342 students and assigned 32 students grade X of SMAN Sungai Penuh academic year of 2023/2024 as the sample. The data collected by using Quizlet and analyzed by calculating the total score, the percentage, and the average of students' ability. Then, calculating the mean score to determine the students' ability in using suffixes. The researcher found out the percentage students' ability in using suffixes. 19.35% students included in excellent level. 35.48% students included in good level. 38.71% students included in fair level, 6.45% students included in poor level and 0% included in very poor level. The researcher also found the students' average ability in using each type of suffixes. In nominal suffixes 58.06 or good level. In verbal suffixes, 66.45 or good level. In adjectival suffixes 69.68 or good level. In adverbial suffixes 67.74 or good level. According to the total mean score 65.16, the researcher categorized the Students' Ability in Using Suffixes by using online media quizlet at grade X of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh was good ability or high ability.

**Keywords:** Students' Ability, Derivational Suffixes, Vocabulary Building, Quizlet

Abstrak. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan kemampuan siswa dalam menggunakan sufiks derivasional. Penelitian ini berfokus pada analisis kemampuan siswa menggunakan empat jenis sufiks derivasional melalui online media Quizlet. Desain penelitian ini adalah pendekatan deskriptif kuantitatif. Populasi penelitian ini adalah 342 siswa dan 32 siswa kelas X SMAN Sungai Penuh tahun pelajaran 2023/2024 sebagai sampel. Data didapatkan dengan menggunakan Quizlet dan dianalisis dengan menghitung total skor, persentase, dan rata-rata kemampuan siswa. Kemudian menghitung nilai rata-rata untuk mengetahui kemampuan siswa dalam menggunakan sufiks. Peneliti menemukan persentase kemampuan siswa dalam menggunakan sufiks. Sebanyak 19,35% siswa termasuk dalam tingkat sangat baik. Sebanyak 35,48% siswa termasuk dalam tingkat baik. Sebanyak 38,71% siswa termasuk dalam tingkat cukup, 6,45% siswa termasuk dalam tingkat kurang baik, dan 0% siswa termasuk dalam tingkat sangat kurang. Peneliti juga menemukan kemampuan rata-rata siswa dalam menggunakan setiap jenis sufiks. Pada sufiks nominal 58,06 atau tingkat baik. Pada sufiks verbal, 66,45 atau tingkat baik. Pada akhiran kata sifat 69,68 atau tingkat baik. Pada sufiks adverbial 67,74 atau tingkat baik. Berdasarkan nilai rata-rata total 65,16, peneliti mengkategorikan Kemampuan Siswa dalam menggunakan sufiks dengan menggunakan media online Quizlet di kelas X SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh adalah kemampuan baik atau kemampuan tinggi.

Kata Kunci: Kemampuan Siswa, Sufiks, Pembentukan Kosakata, Quizlet

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### INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary is the crucial primary aspect needed because by building the vocabularies, students would be able master English easily. The number of vocabulary they have mastered could indicate the students' ability and understanding in mastering English (Utami, 2015; Nasri, 2022). This means that student who has the most number of vocabularies tend to have a good English comprehension and competency. So, students must enrich their vocabulary to master the English.

In building the vocabularies, there are so many alternative ways to do. Teacher can use several techniques to teach the students vocabulary. One of them is teaching affixes. Students can also build their vocabulary by themselves by drilling and memorizing the English vocabulary independently but sometimes this isn't effective because students hardly want to memorize foreign new words. In the other hand, students can also use another way to build their vocabulary, for example, using affixes which is attaching the affix to they already known word, they can make a new word. By creating and experimenting with words, student will found it fun to acquire new words and helps students more to memorize it. Furthermore, teaching suffixes to English learner is a strategy that is very effective and must be meticulously studied and applied (Yurtbaşı, M., 2015).

However, in the majority of cases, there are few problems faced by students in learning forming words particularly using suffixes. As while I did my teaching practice in SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh, I found out that the majority of the students X MIPA 5 still couldn't notice the suffixes in a word. This means that although they had learned the suffixes rules in their X grade, they still didn't understand the rules of suffixes comprehensively. Considering the students' problems, the researcher concludes that students must learn more about suffixes in order to increase their vocabulary.

In another cases, the students lost their interest while learning the suffix in the classroom. I found that the students' interest is decreasing easily as I just explaining the material in front of the class. Therefore, to increase students' interest in learning suffixes, the teacher should be used media online. For example Quizlet media, an online interactive website that helps the teacher teach vocabulary, especially suffixes, and also helps the teacher to quiz the students as well to conduct a monthly or weekly test even a daily task.

In this research, the researcher focuses on analyzing the students' ability in using suffixes particularly, the four types of derivational suffixes (1) Nominal suffixes; —ment, -er, -ness, and —ion, (2) Verbal suffixes; —ize —ate, -en, -if. (3) Adjectival suffixes; —ize —ate, -en, -ify. (4) Adverbial suffixes; —ly, -y, -ward, and —wise) by using online media Quizlet. This research is

done at grade X students SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh Academic Year 2023/2024.by online media Quizlet.to find out the is students' ability in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet at tenth grade of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh.

### **Definition of Vocabulary**

According Oxford dictionary, vocabulary can be define as all the words in a particular language. Vocabulary in Cambridge dictionary is all the words used by a particular person, or all the words that exist in a particular language or subject. In short, researcher defined that vocabulary is a set or list of word in a language which we must know. It can help us to communicate easily and effectively.

Words can be composed of smaller units, called morphemes (Plag, 2018). There are two kinds of morpheme as (Plag, 2018) said those are free morpheme and bound morpheme. Free morpheme is a base word which has its own meaning (e.g.: John, was, for, the). Bound morpheme is cannot stand alone it needs to attach the free morpheme to be meaningful. (e.g.: suffixes: look-ing, glass-es, operat-or). In conclusion, word is a minimal unit of language. It is spoken or written and carry out one or more meaning. A word consists of free morpheme and or bound morpheme that can stand alone in language. A word can be created by derivation process by adding affixes to the base word.

# Students' Vocabulary

(Sidek & Rahim, 2015) argued that vocabulary knowledge is also required for successful reading comprehension. So, vocabulary is very important to helps someone in developing the four skills of languages (listening, speaking, reading and writing). (Setiawan et. Al.,2020) also said that students' proficiency in the English language is also measured by how many words they have memorized. It means that students who have a wide range of English vocabulary tend to have better English language comprehension, and competency. So, vocabulary can show students' English proficiency.

To build the students' vocabulary, affixation process is one of the easy ways to do. Affixation process has its ways or rules for forming new words. For instance, adding the suffix to a base word and getting a new word. So, in the process of affixation, students will acquire new words by adding the affixes to a base word to create new meaningful words. With these affixes rules, it helps learners to coin new word and help them to be easily to remember the new word they have created.

### **Affixation**

(Plag, 2018) defined affix as a bound morpheme that attaches to bases. Plag also classifying affixes according to the position regard to the root they are divided into three. First, Prefixes are affixes which placed at the beginning of root. Second, Infixes are affixes which placed in the middle of the root. The last is suffixes are affixes which placed at the end of root. A root word stands on its own as a word, but you can make new words from it by adding beginnings (prefixes) and endings (suffixes).

### **SUFFIXES**

A suffix refers to the placing of a bound morpheme (suffix) at the end of a word. It is a group of letters or smallest unit of word that we can add to the end of a root word e.g. learning. "Learn" is the base word or root word, and "-ing" which follow the root is the suffix. There are two types of suffixes:

- Inflectional suffixes. According to (Akmal, Risdaneva, and Yusny, 2017), if inflectional suffixes added to the end of the root word, it will not create a new lexeme (word).
- Derivational suffixes. Derivational suffix is used to create new words by changing the meaning and or the part of speech. e.g. farmer (noun) from the base word "farm" (verb) adding with derivational suffix "-er"

(Plag, 2018) divides suffixes into four types which are nominal, verbal, adjectival, and adverbial suffix.

- Nominal suffixes: according to (Plag, 2018), nominal suffixes are often employed to derive abstract nouns from verbs, adjectives, and nouns. Examples: -ess (awareness), -ine, -trix, -al, -age, -es, -s, -er, -or, -ing, -ance, -ence, -ant, -ment, -ee, -ness, -ist, -ion, -ent, -an, -ship, -ar, -ard, -ier, -ette, -mony, -ory, -ster, -try, -eer, -ure.
- Verbal suffixes: There are many kinds of suffixes which derive verbs from other categories (mostly adjectives and nouns). For instance, -ate (dominate, irritate), -en (harden, lengthen), -ify (identify, magnify), -ize (feminize, Americanize), -able (avoidable, readable), -ive (offensive, productive), -al (informal, criminal), -ed (air-minded, bearded), -ful (grateful, helpful), -ic(al) (heroic, economical), -ing (surprising, boring), -ish (foolish, childish), -less (hopeless, priceless), -ly (manly, daily), -y (noisy, dirty), -ous (ambitious, nervous).
- Adjectival suffixes: Furthermore, the suffixes attached at the end of the root word in order to change its function from noun or verb into adjective are called as adjectival suffixes. For example, -able (avoidable, readable), -ive (offensive, productive), -al (informal, criminal),

-ed (air-minded, bearded), -ful (grateful, helpful), -ic(al) (heroic, economical), -ing (surprising, boring), -ish (foolish, childish), -less (hopeless, priceless), -ly (manly, daily), -y (noisy, dirty), -ous (ambitious, nervous).

• Adverbial suffixes: Another suffix is that the suffix attached at the end of the root word to indicate it as adverb is called as adverb suffixes. That is the examples of them, -ly (slowly, aggressively), -wise (clockwise, weather-wise), -ward (backward, upward).

Then, researcher limits the research on the students' ability in using four types of suffixes proposed by (Plag, 2018)

# **Students' Ability**

According to Oxford dictionary, student is a person who is studying at a university or college. In Cambridge dictionary, student is someone who is learning at a school. The student is a pupil, a scholar, especially one who attend a school or who seeks knowledge from professional teachers or from books as the students of an academy. It can be concluded that student is someone or a person who is studying in school, university, college, or academy to seek knowledge. Based on Oxford dictionary, ability is a level of skill or intelligence. While Cambridge dictionary define ability as the mental or physical power or skill needed to do something. In short, ability is the capacity and competency of someone to do something physically and mentally. So, students' ability is a capacity or skill or intelligence of a person who is studying in an education department in performing something.

# The Importance of Understanding Suffixes in Learning English

Understanding suffixes in learning English is very important to build the students vocabulary. Yurtbasi (2015) stated that learning suffixes as early as possible during the learning of English is very important for students because it can help students see and use context and etymological clues, allowing them to make educated guesses about the meaning of unfamiliar words. He also stated that teaching affixes has a great benefit for students so the students can use the strategy for decoding the meanings of unknown words. So, when students understand the rules of suffixes, students can recognize the suffixes in a word or in a sentence that students will be easily to find and figure out the meaning.

# Quizlet

According to Kharbach (2023), Quizlet is a web tool and a mobile app that use to boost student' learning through several study tools that include flashcards and game-based quizzes. As a teacher, Quizlet can help you to create and share class material through link or class code.

# **Conceptual Framework**

This research described about vocabulary. This research focused on the crucial primary part of vocabulary. It described about the students' ability in using suffixes. In order to know investigate the students ability in using suffixes to form a new word, the researcher gave test about suffixes which divided into; noun suffixes, adjective suffixes, verb suffixes, and adverb suffixes. After conduct the test, the researcher analyze the data gathered and found the data about the students' ability in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet.

#### **METHODS**

This research was a quantitative descriptive research. Descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer question about the opinions of people about some topic or issue. In this research, researcher used quantitative approach because it only described the phenomena by collecting and providing the data in number using test. The design of this research is descriptive quantitative research, where researcher get and present the data in numerical and describe the students' ability in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet at grade X SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh in descriptive form.

The researcher focused on analyzing the students' ability in using suffixes particularly, the four types of derivational suffixes (1) Nominal suffixes; —ment, -er, -ness, and —ion, (2) Verbal suffixes; —ize —ate, -en, -if. (3) Adjectival suffixes; —ize —ate, -en, -ify. (4) Adverbial suffixes; —ly, -y, -ward, and —wise) by using online media Quizlet. This research is done at grade X students SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh Academic Year 2023/2024 by online media Quizlet to found out the students' ability in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet at tenth grade of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh. According to Gay (2001) said that 'Population was defined as a group of interest to the researcher, the group to which the result of the study will ideally generalize'. Therefore, the researcher concluded that population is the whole participants of research, meanwhile, sample was a number of participant that representation of the population.

In this study, the population was the tenth grade students of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh in the academic year 2023/2024. The total number of the population of this research was 342 students. To get the sample, the researcher chose cluster random sampling as (Cresswell, 2018) stated

that random sampling is a procedure in quantitative research for selecting participants. The method of this sampling the population is separated into groups, in this research were in X A, X B, XC, X D, X E, X F, X G, X H, X I, and X J (the classes were named cluster). After that, the writer chose a random number of groups in the cluster by providing eight papers and wrote all the name of the classes in eight small papers. Then, the researcher closed the eyes and took one paper. The result was class of X B as the sample of the research which the total number of sample was 32 students. It consist only one class. They were consisting of 15 male 17 female students.

#### **Instrument of the Research**

Arikunto (2017) said that "Instrument of research is a tool of facility is used by the researcher in collecting data". In this research, the researcher used the multiple choices test about suffixes as the instrument. The test was made in Quizlet website and then given to students in order to know the students' ability in forming word by using suffixes at grade X SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh. The total of test is 20 items. The researcher used test item which is referred to Cambridge English Vocabulary In use-Pre intermediate reference and practice book (2017) and Cliff TOEFL Preparation Guide book by Pyle and Munoz (1987). For try out the test, the researcher distributed 40 numbers of test item – match the correct suffix form for the root given. The researcher distributed the try out test to students out of the sample. This was done to check out the students' understanding about the instruction and to see the validity and the reliability of the test. After doing the try out, the writer gave 20 numbers of test items. Each test item was done in 2 minutes. In total, students were given 80 minutes to do the try out test and 40 minutes to do the real test. Each correct answer was times by 5 to get the total score.

To prevent cheating on the online test, the researcher encouraged the students to not to cheat and share the answer to their friends in class. During the test, the researcher use the strategy proposed by (Budhai, 2020) that set up the exam to show one question, set up the time limit for each question, and limit the tabs to prevent cheating.

# Validity of the Test

To calculate the validity of multiple choice questions, the researcher use the *point biserial* formula as follow:

$$r_{pbis} = \frac{M_p - M_t}{S_t} \sqrt{\frac{p}{q}}$$

#### Where:

 $r_{pbis}$  = point biserial coefficient correlatio

 $M_p$  = average total score who answered correctly on the ite

 $M_t$  = average total score

 $S_t$  = standard deviation total score

p = the total of students who answered correctly on each item q = the total of students who answered incorrectly on each item

After calculating  $r_{pbis}$ , compared to  $r_{table}$  with the significance level 5%, the validity would be got if:

 $r_{pbis} > r_{table}$  it specified to be valid

 $r_{pbis} < r_{table}$  it specified to be invalid

Then, the researcher found the difficulty index of each item. For measuring item difficulty (P-value) given by (Arikunto, 2012):

$$P = \frac{B}{IS}$$

Where:

P = Index difficulties

B = Number of test-takers answering the item incorrectly

JS = Number of test-takers responding to that item

Classifications of level difficulty are (Arikunto, 2012):

P = 0.00 - 0.30 = Difficult

P = 0.30 - 0.70 = Moderate

P = 0.70 - 1.00 = Easy

# Reliability of the Test

To found the reliability of the test instrument, the researcher used scores and analyzed the correlation coefficient using the following *Pearson product moment* formula as follow:

$$r_{11} = \left(\frac{n}{n-1}\right) \left(\frac{s^2 - \sum pq}{s^2}\right)$$

With

 $s^2$  = total varians

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum x^2 - \frac{\left(\sum x\right)^2}{N}}{N}$$

Where:

 $\sum x^2$  = total score sum square

 $(\sum x)^2$  = the square of the sum of the score

N = Number of test-takers

 $r_{11}$  = Reliability of the instrument

n = total number of questions

p = the total of students who get score 1 q = the total of students who get score 0

The criteria of reliability based on Mardapi (2002)

 $0.7 \le r_{11} \le 1 = \text{Reliable}$ 

 $0.3 \le r_{11} \le 0.7$  = Unreliable item

 $r_{11} \le 0.3$  = Unreliable item that should be deleted

To collect the data, the researcher prepared the test item, made the test in multiple choices, and created the online worksheet about matching the correct suffixes to the root given to create a new word. The test consisted of 20 items that were distributed into each type of derivational suffixes. Each type consisted 5 item test. Then, the researcher gave the students the test to match the correct suffix to the root given. Finally, the data was taken from the students' worksheet using Quizlet media to be analyzed.

# **Technique of Analyzing Quantitative Data**

After collecting data, the researcher used the descriptive analysis. Then, the researcher found the score and the percentage criteria that show the level of ability. Then, the researcher calculated the mean score of the students test result to calculate the students' ability by using following formula:

$$\overline{x} = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

Where:

 $\overline{x}$  = Mean Score

 $\sum x = \text{Total Score}$ 

N = Total Number of Students

The researcher used the relative frequency or the percentage table following the formula:

$$P = \frac{f}{N} \times 100 \%$$

Where:

P = Percentage number

f = Frequency of the students' error N = Total number of each item task

In addition, to know the scores distribution then the scores were classified based on the criteria issued by (Arikunto, 2009) and found the percentage as follows:

Grade	Scores	Criteria	Percentage (%)
A	85-100	Excellent	
В	65-80	Good	
C	45-60	Fair	
D	25-40	Poor	
E	0-20	Very Poor	

**Table 1.** Scoring Criteria and the Percentage of the Students' Score

After the researcher found the scores of all students', it would consult to the criteria as following:

- If the value of score 0-20, it can be categorized into very low ability.
- If the value of scores 25-40, it can be categorized into low ability.
- If the value of score 45-60, it can be categorized into enough ability.
- If the value of score 65-80, it can be categorized into high ability.
- If the value of score 85-100, it can be categorized into very high ability.

### **RESULTS**

After analyzing the students' test result collected in Quizlet online media, the researcher found out the result of the students' ability in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet at grade X of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh academic year 2023/2024. The following table is the description of the result of the test and the scores achieved by the students in using suffixes by using online media Quizlet at grade X of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh academic year 2023/2024.

Table 2. Description of students' Score in Test

Students	Final Score	Grade
A	80	В
В	75	В
C	90	A
D	90	A
E	35	D
F	55	C
G	65	В
Н	60	C
I	50	C
J	95	A
K	65	В
L	50	C
M	65	В
N	65	В
O	70	В
P	85	A
Q	55	C

R	75	В
S	45	C
T	70	В
U	75	В
V	85	A
$\mathbf{W}$	60	C
X	55	C
Y	85	A
Z	60	C
AA	55	C
BB	50	C
CC	70	В
DD	60	C
EE	35	D

Based on the table above, the students achieved the highest score was 95 and the lowest score was 35 with the range 60.

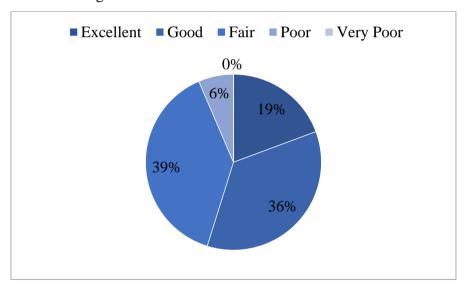


Figure 1. The percentage of students' score

From the figure above, it can be seen the percentage of students' score in using suffixes to create a new word. Only 6 students or 19.35% got the highest score and included in excellent level. 11 students or 35.48% were included in good level. 12 students or 38.71% were included in fair level, 2 students or 6.45% were included in poor level ability but there were no students or 0% was included in very poor level. There were 17 students got the score above 65 and 14 students got the score below 65.

The following figure described the classification of students' ability in using each type of suffixes to form new word.

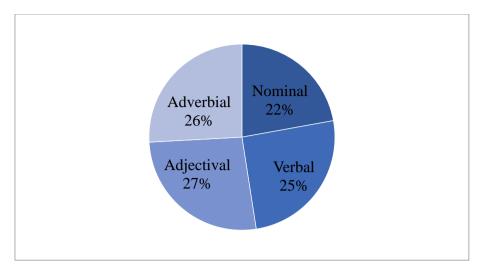


Figure 2. Classification of students' ability in each type of suffixes

Students' average score in using verbal suffixes to form a new word were 66.45 or 25.37% included in good level. The highest students' average score in using adjectival suffixes to form a new word were 69.68 or 26.60% included in good level. Students' average score in using adverbial suffixes to form a new word were 67.74 or 25.86% included in good level. This means that the students understand about the adjectival suffixes the most out of the other type of suffixes.

From the result of the test and the score, the mean score was calculated. To calculate the mean score, the researcher sum all the students total score and divide it with the total number of the respondent or all the students as following formula (Koenker, 1981):

$$\overline{x} = \frac{\sum X}{N} = \overline{x} = \frac{\sum 2020}{31} = 65.16$$

From the data above, the mean score of the students' ability in using suffixes was 65.16 or in grade B. So, the students' ability in using suffixes to form a new word was in B or good level. This meant that the most of the students' were understand the suffixes and able to use suffixes to form new word. Also, most of the students were successful to do the test with the highest score was 95. Based on the calculation, the mean score of the students' test 65.16.

### **DISCUSSION**

Vocabulary is a primary aspect that is the most important to learn by those who learn English as foreign language. The students' English comprehension, and competency is depends on how much they have mastered English vocabularies (Nasri, 2022). To build the students' vocabulary and increase their skill in English, students can apply many ways. One of the easiest ways is the understanding of the affixation rules and process. By understanding and applying

the rules, they don't have to memorize every new word they learnt. So, they just have to add the affixes (prefixes and suffixes) to the root they have known and then, they get a new word. Once the students understand about a particular prefix or suffix, it can help student to identify and recognizing the prefix and the suffix in a word. Thus, this will help the students to be easily to remember the meaning of the word and gather new words.

Eventually, the result of the test, the researcher found out that the students average ability in using each type of suffixes. The students average ability in using nominal suffixes were 58.06 average or 22.16% that in B or good level. Next, the students average ability in using verbal suffixes were 66.45 average or 25.37% that in B or good level. The students average ability in using adjectival suffixes were 69.68 average or 26.60% that in B or good level. Then, the students average ability in using adverbial suffixes were 67.74 average or 25.86% that in B or good level.

The researcher also found out the percentage students' ability in using suffixes were 6 students or 19.35% got the highest score and included in excellent level. 11 students or 35.48% were included in good level. 12 students or 38.71% were included in fair level, 2 students or 6.45% were included in poor level ability but there were no students or 0% was included in very poor level. According to the mean score 65.16, the researcher could categorize the Students' Ability in Using Suffixes by using online media quizlet at the tenth grade of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh was good ability or high ability.

#### CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing and describing the data on the students' ability in using suffixes at grade X SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh, the researcher concludes the result of the data as the following explanation is the students' ability in using suffixes was good ability. It can be proven by the findings described in the previous chapter that 6 students or 19.35% got have excellent ability, 11 students or 35.48% have good ability, 12 students or 38.71% have fair ability, 2 students or 6.45% were have poor ability, and 0 student or 0% has very poor ability. The researcher also found the students' average ability in using each type of suffixes. In detail, the students average score in using nominal suffixes were 58.06 or 22.16%, in using verbal suffixes the students' average score were 66.45 or 25.37%, in using adjectival suffixes the students' average score were 69.68 or 26.60%, in using adverbial suffixes the students' average score were 67.74 or 25.86%. All that average score were included in B or good level and students did best in using adjectival suffixes. Most of the students got grade B or good ability and the mean score was

65.16. So, the researcher concluded that the Students' Ability in Using Suffixes by using online media Quizlet at the tenth grade of SMAN 2 Sungai Penuh was good ability or high ability.

### RECOMEDATIONS

Based on the findings and discussion, the researcher proposed several suggestions as follow is the English teacher should focus his/her attention on building the students vocabulary by teaching the students in a creative way. The English teacher should give motivations to the students to learn suffixes to increase the students' ability. The students must master the suffixes rules. So, it will be easier to expand their vocabulary and the students don't have to memorize every single word they learnt. The students should understand the rules of suffixes, learn more how to use suffixes, and practicing using suffixes to improve their vocabulary and English ability.

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