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# Learning Skills of Junior High School

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# Abstract

Learning skills is demands that must be possessed by students to achieve maximum learning outcomes. This study aims to reveal the picture of students' learning skills in junior high school 25 Padang state. This research uses the quantitative approach with descriptive analysis method. The sample consisted of 31 students of class VIII selected at random. The instrument used is a learning skill questionnaire with a reliability of 0.754. The results showed that the students' learning skill was in the high category with an average score of 144 with the achievement level of 76%.

Keywords: Learning skill, Junio High School, Student

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# Introduction

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Education in essence is one of the most important aspects in the progress of a nation, because through education all abilities and skills possessed by students can be developed. Education aims to educate the life of the nation. The latest law (Law) concerning education, namely Law Number 20 of 2003 has a fairly broad and strategic formula. The key words of education are conscious and planned efforts, this becomes a sign that education is indeed well prepared. Education is carried out by involving all parties, from the government to the community as the main target of education. The focus of educational development is then formulated into six areas of development, namely: religious spiritual power, self-control, personality, intelligence, morals noble, and skills. The focus of the field of development is a clear direction in the implementation of education. Education also aims to form quality human resources, so that they are able and proactive to respond to the challenges of an ever changing era. Education is carried out in a planned and systematic manner so that educational goals can be achieved in accordance with expectations through effective and efficient learning activities (Fikriyanda, Daharnis, & Yuca, 2018).

Through human education it can also broaden their insights and knowledge to shape values, attitudes, and behavior. Ansyar (2006) states that education is a process to actualize all the potential possessed by students to shape their personality, therefore the purpose of education is to equip students with knowledge, values (attitudes) and skills to become competencies for them.

In the learning process in school there are teaching and learning activities that involve interaction between teacher and students(Fikriyanda et al., 2018). Learning is a process carried out by individuals to obtain behavior changes that are relatively permanent, both those observed and which cannot be directly observed that occur as a result of training or experience in their interactions with the environment. Slameto (2013) explains that learning is a effort process carried out by someone to obtain a change in behavior as a whole. In the process of learning special skills are needed by students to

achieve goals in the learning process (Gündüz & Selvi, 2016). Karneli (2004) explains that the quality of student learning activities is very dependent on the learning skills possessed by each student.

Learning skills are part of students who are less attention. Though learning skills will be very helpful for students in completing various tasks given by the teacher so that they can obtain the desired learning outcomes (Adnan, Saleh, & Saenab, 2017). Gettinger & Seibert (2002) revealed that learning skills are very important for academic competence. Effective learning skills are always associated with positive results in various fields of academic content and for students who have diverse abilities, talents and interests in students. Knowledge, skills, and will are a unit that is involved in the process of how to apply these learning skills to achieve maximum learning outcomes (Credé & Kuncel, Nathan, 2008). Good learning is the same as learning that uses the right learning skills (Munirah, 2017).

Learning skills are one of the keys to success that every student must have. Learning skills greatly determine the success of students in learning (Daharnis & Ardi, 2016). Learning skills refer to a skill in carrying out learning activities that must be mastered by each student. Good learning skills are certainly beneficial for the students themselves (Zahri, Yusuf, & S, 2017). Gie (2002) explains that learning skills are a system, method and technique that is well mastered by students about learning material or learning material delivered by teachers in an agile, effective and efficient manner, which of course these learning skills must be trained so students become skilled in undergo learning at school. In line with that, Juneja (2016) argues that learning skills are a learning ability that must be possessed by each student to gain knowledge and competence. Learning Skills are the key to success in completing assignments at school (Chuvgunova & Kostromina, 2016). Failure to learn is not solely because of low learning ability, but because they do not have skills about effective learning methods (Sedanayasa, 2003). Learning skills are one of the factors that can influence learning behavior (Jansen & Suhre, 2010; Alizamar, 2012).

Farid (2001) suggested that learning skills must be possessed by students before participating in the learning process, namely ways related to learning activities, doing task, reading books, writing a paper, studying groups, preparing for examinations, following up on exam results and looking for sources learn. Learning skills require the awareness of students to realize good learning outcomes, where this will be seen from every action or behavior of students in teaching and learning activities such as observing, listening, reading, etc. which if there is a match between expectations and actions, then it will there are good learning outcomes. Because, learning skills are factors that can influence student learning outcomes (Adiputra, 2016). Students who have learning skills can improve their learning abilities in accordance with the expected learning goals (Konadi, Mudjiran, & Karneli, 2017). Special skills related to knowledge about effective ways of learning that must be known and mastered by students such as reading skills, writing skills, doing task skils, memorizing skills, and skills in preparing for exams (Hidayat & Bangkalan, 2015).

Satgagus (2002) explains that learning activities require mental activities such as capturing messages, remembering, thinking, concentration, where all of them will be realized in the form of listening, writing, talking and discussion. In line with that, Dasril (2002) put forward that the skill of remembering or memorizing lessons is a student's skill related to (1) studying the explanatory material conveyed by the teacher (acquisition), (2) storing the teacher's explanation in the brain (storage), and (3) re-express what is sought when needed (disclosure). writing skills are a learning skill that must be possessed by students. Writing skills are the ability to organize thoughts systematically and logically, both in the form of non-scientific writing and scientific writing (Desrina, Agustina, & Effendi, Haris, 2013). Writing is an activity carried out to pour the contents of the mind. Munirah (2017) explains that writing skills is a very important thing, which can produce intelligent, critical, creative and cultured generations. Irsyad & Elfi (2004) explain that writing or taking notes is a very important thing done by students, where after listening to the teacher's explanation, reading the

reading material, certainly not all of them can be remembered. Record activities need to be done, because by looking at the notes, students can remember and master the core of the material. Munirah (2017) explains that writing skills can improve student learning outcomes.

Hastarita (2013) revealed several aspects of learning skills, namely: (1) reading skills, (2) notes skills, (3) listening skills, (4) memorization skills, (5) speaking skills, (6) exam skills , (7) critical thinking skills, (8) time management skills, and (9) concentration skills. In line with that, Prayitno (2007) suggests several learning skills that students must possess, namely: several learning skills, namely as follows (1) attending lectures, (2) record material, (3) effective reading, (4) strengthening memory, (5) doing task, (6) group learning, and (7) preparing themselves in the face of examinations. Therefore students are required to have learning skills that can support the learning process in school. Yusri (2010) says that doing tasks well can affect learning outcomes. In order for students to achieve success in learning, students need to do the task as well as possible.

Juneja (2016) revealed that learning skills can help students to overcome learning problems. Based on the results of this study, it can be said that students who succeed in learning are students who have mastered the ways of learning or learning skills because what to do and how to do learning activities have been mastered. Ilyas (2015) also revealed that the involvement of students who are active in the learning process is a something that really determines the learning skills possessed by students.

Based on the opinions of experts and research results above, it can be concluded that every student must have or master the learning skills. Students who have the skills to learn will be able to achieve learning or maximum learning achievement. Therefore, students' learning skills need to be improved by providing understanding and research on learning skills.

Based on the findings of researchers during fieldwork guidance and counseling (PLBK) at junior high school 25 Padang state, researchers found that there are still students who skipped during the learning process, have incomplete records or lack of awareness to complete records if not present, deceived during the exam, students tend to be inactive or not ask if there is material that is not understood, handing over tasks is not timely and some do not even do it, many still get test scores below the minimum criterion of mastery (KKM). Based on AUM PTSDL results administered on 22 August 2017 it is known that the quality of student learning skill with score 1734 achievement 49,5% skilled is in the medium category. These conditions illustrate that students of junior high school 25 Padang state have not been able to obtain optimal learning outcomes.

Research related to learning skill ever done by Nurmayasari and Murusdi (2015) obtained the result as much as 63.75% of students of class X SMK Yogyakarta cooperative has to cheat behavior. Dhian (2016) finds that students do the tasks and answer questions at random. Furthermore, Syafni, Gratitude & Ibrahim (2013) in his study found 50% of students who did not have reading skills, 48.2% did not have the skills to memorize lessons, 42.5% had no skills in summarizing the book. Slameto (2010) explains that students will fail or do not get good learning outcomes if they do not know the effective ways of learning (learning skills).

These problems should not be left alone because it will have an impact on learning outcomes. Alizamar (2012) explains that learning skills is one of the factors that can affect learning achievement or learning outcomes. So, students are required to have skills in learning. To help students in completing his studies with maximum learning outcomes, it is necessary to attach a picture or the condition of students' learning skills.

#### Method

This research uses the quantitative approach of the descriptive method. The sample consisted of 31 students of class VIII selected at random. The instrument used is a learning skill questionnaire with a reliability of 0,754. Data were analyzed using a descriptive method.

# **Results and Discussion**

From the results of this study obtained data about students' learning skills in the form of achievement scores that in analysis descriptively. The overall number of item's statement about learning skill as much as 38 points with a score range of 1 - 5, highest score 190, lowest score 94. Life Skills students' overall look at Table 1 below:

Category	Interval	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)		
High	≥74	16	52		
Medium	47 - 73	15	48		
Low	≤46	0	0		

Table 1. Conditions Student Learning Skills by Category (N = 31)

Referring to the table above, it can be seen that the learning skills of students junior high school 25 Padang state are in the high category with the achievement of 52% and some students have learning skills in the medium category with the achievement of 48%. Thus, it can be concluded that the students' learning skills in junior high school 25 Padang state are in the high category. Furthermore, in detail the description of students' learning skill based on sub-variables can be seen in Table 2 below:

N	Sub-variables	Score							
0	Jub-variables	Ideal	Max	Min	ΣΣ	Mean	%	SD	Category
1	Reading skills (8)	40	38	19	925	30	75	4.2	High
2	Writing Skills (4)	20	20	10	464	15	75	3.0	High
3	Skills to Working task (5)	25	25	11	585	19	75	3.5	High
4	Remembering skills (5)	25	25	10	594	19	77	3.7	High
5	Exam skills (16)	80	78	43	1906	61	77	10.5	High
(	Overall (38)	190	182	94	4474	144	76	22.7	High

Table 2. The condition of Student's Learning Skills Based on Sub-variables

Based on Table 2 it can be seen that overall the ideal score is 190, the highest score is 182, the lowest score is 94, the total score is 4474, the average score is 144, and the standard deviation is 22.7. The average achievement of the ideal score is 76%. It can be concluded that the learning skill of Junior high school 25 Padang state is included in the high category. Nevertheless, each student should continue to strive to improve his learning skills by continuing to hone his skills. Learning skills are very necessary in achieving the desired goals in learning and can support success for students.

Referring to the above categories, high student learning ability is influenced by several factors such as learning habits, learning environment, parent, cognitive knowledge/ ability (Hidayat & Bangkalan, 2015). Of these factors, cognitive is one of the important factors that can affect students' learning abilities (MacCullagh, Bosanquet & Badcock, 2016). It is said to be important because cognitive can help students better understand about learning (Paul, Don & Kauchak, 2012). Therefore, students are required to have the knowledge or a good understanding of learning skills or how to learn a good way.

(Daharnis, 2011a; Suprijono, 2012) it explains that a perception or a good understanding of learning will affect the formation of attitudes or actions. The action intended here is the action to conduct the learning activities. In order for students' cognitive learning skills to be well established, assistance is needed in counseling and guidance services that can provide knowledge and understanding of learning skills. Krishnan (2015) explains that students need to be actively involved in the learning process, because active processes can encourage deeper learning and understanding so as to enable increased learning skills. Gettinger & Seibert (2002) also explained that with the knowledge of effective and efficient techniques or ways of learning owned by students, students would also know how to apply them to the learning process.

### Conclusion

Based on the results of research, it can be concluded that the students' learning skills in junior high school 25 Padang state included in the high category. However, students still need support and assistance from teachers related to student learning skills so that the learning skills possessed by each student can be developed so that students can achieve the desired goals in the learning process. Learning skills possessed by students must be honed and trained so that the learning skills possessed by each student develop optimally. Especially in this study researchers recommend various types of guidance and counseling services using various types of learning approaches to help stimulate students to maintain and improve each student's learning skills. Using a variety of approaches, the counselor must be able to use the most effective approach in developing the learning skills possessed by each student.

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