STUDY OF TOEIC PREDICTION TEST RESULTS AS AN INDICATOR OF VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' WORK READINESS: A CASE STUDY AT SMKN 3 JAKARTA

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the results of the TOEIC Prediction Test as an indicator of work readiness for vocational high school students, especially at SMKN 3 Jakarta. TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) is a measuring tool for English language proficiency that is often used as a requirement by the industrial world and the world of work. This study uses a quantitative descriptive approach with data from 213 grade XII students who took the TOEIC Prediction Test. The results showed that most students were at an intermediate level, with the following score details: above 800 (3.3%), 700–799 (8.96%), 600–699 (16.51%), 500–599 (28.77%), 400–499 (21.70%), 300–399 (9.91%), 200–299 (8.96%), and 100–199 (1.89%). These data indicate that most students still need to improve their English skills to meet professional communication standards in the world of work.
***Keywords:** TOEIC, work readiness, vocational school, English language proficiency*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis hasil TOEIC Prediction Test sebagai indikator kesiapan kerja siswa SMK, khususnya di SMKN 3 Jakarta. TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) merupakan alat ukur kemampuan berbahasa Inggris yang sering dijadikan syarat oleh dunia industri dan dunia kerja. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif deskriptif dengan data dari 213 siswa kelas XII yang mengikuti TOEIC Prediction Test. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sebagian besar siswa berada pada level menengah, dengan rincian skor sebagai berikut: di atas 800 (3.3%), 700–799 (8.96%), 600–699 (16.51%), 500–599 (28.77%), 400–499 (21.70%), 300–399 (9.91%), 200–299 (8.96%), dan 100–199 (1.89%). Data ini menunjukkan bahwa sebagian besar siswa masih perlu peningkatan kemampuan bahasa Inggris untuk memenuhi standar komunikasi profesional di dunia kerja.
Kata Kunci: TOEIC, kesiapan kerja, SMK, kemampuan bahasa Inggris

I. INTRODUCTION

It has become a national discussion that Vocational School students who are expected to graduate are ready to work, that having English language competence is a necessity in this era of globalization. In addition to the talents and interests of students honed in these applied schools such as accounting, office administration, machining, and other study programs, English language skills are no less important. The rise of English courses for employees

proves that English is very much needed in companies, especially private and multinational industries. Company recruiters take English proficiency standards from an English language competency certificate submitted by applicants, so that from the certificate the English language skills of prospective employees can be seen. In terms of dealing with English, especially communication, vocational school students at SMK who when they work later, of course cannot be separated from coming into contact with vocabulary when speaking. Also understanding in listening, grammar in writing, and fluency in expressing opinions. The ability of these 4 skills can be measured using a test such as the TOEIC Prediction Test. TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) is a test that measures how well English is used for everyday communication, both verbally and in writing. Whatever the profession, TOEIC will make it easier for job seekers to achieve their dreams.

English language skills are one of the important competencies needed in the world of work, especially in the era of globalization. The TOEIC Prediction Test is often used as an indicator to assess students' readiness to face the professional world. Vocational schools as vocational educational institutions are required to produce graduates who are ready to work, including in the aspect of international communication.

The importance of English language proficiency in the world of work is increasing along with the demands of globalization. Vocational High School (SMK) students are required to be ready to enter the industrial world, one of which is by having communication skills in English. TOEIC is widely used as a benchmark for this competency. This study attempts to evaluate the results of the TOEIC Prediction Test to determine the extent of the work readiness of students at SMKN 3 Jakarta.

This activity is an activity carried out outside of school hours at the SMKN 3 Jakarta vocational school for 2 days (the first day, socialization about TOEIC and practice on how to do TOEIC and the second day is the implementation of the TOEIC Prediction Test, and is carried out for two days, namely April 29 and 30, 2025. On the first day, TOEIC enrichment was carried out) and the second day the TOEIC Prediction Test was carried out, which was attended by 213 participants from 4 departments, namely: TKJ (Computer and Network Engineering), AKL (Accounting and Institutional Finance), BR (Retail Business) and MP (Office Management).

II. RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a descriptive quantitative approach to determine the distribution of TOEIC Prediction Test results and how these scores can reflect students' work readiness.

This approach was chosen because it is able to present data objectively and measurably, especially in seeing the trend of scores and students' level of English ability as an indicator of readiness to face the world of work.

The population in this study were grade XII students of SMKN 3 Jakarta in the 2024/2025 academic year who took the TOEIC Prediction Test. The total number of participants was 213 people, with the test being carried out directly at the school through collaboration with the TOEIC testing institution. The data obtained were in the form of each participant's final score, which was then grouped into eight categories of value ranges.

Data analysis was carried out by calculating the number and percentage of students in each score category. The results of the distribution of scores were then interpreted based on the general TOEIC standards to determine the level of students' English ability. Furthermore, these scores were compared with the work readiness reference table based on TOEIC scores, which is used to measure the extent to which students are ready to enter the industrial world or professional jobs that require communication skills in English.

III. RESEARCH RESULTS

This study produced quantitative data in the form of TOEIC Prediction Test scores from 213 students of SMKN 3 Jakarta. The analysis of this data aims to see the distribution of students' English language ability levels based on the scores obtained. These results are expected to be an initial picture in assessing the extent to which students are prepared to enter the workforce, especially in terms of English communication skills.
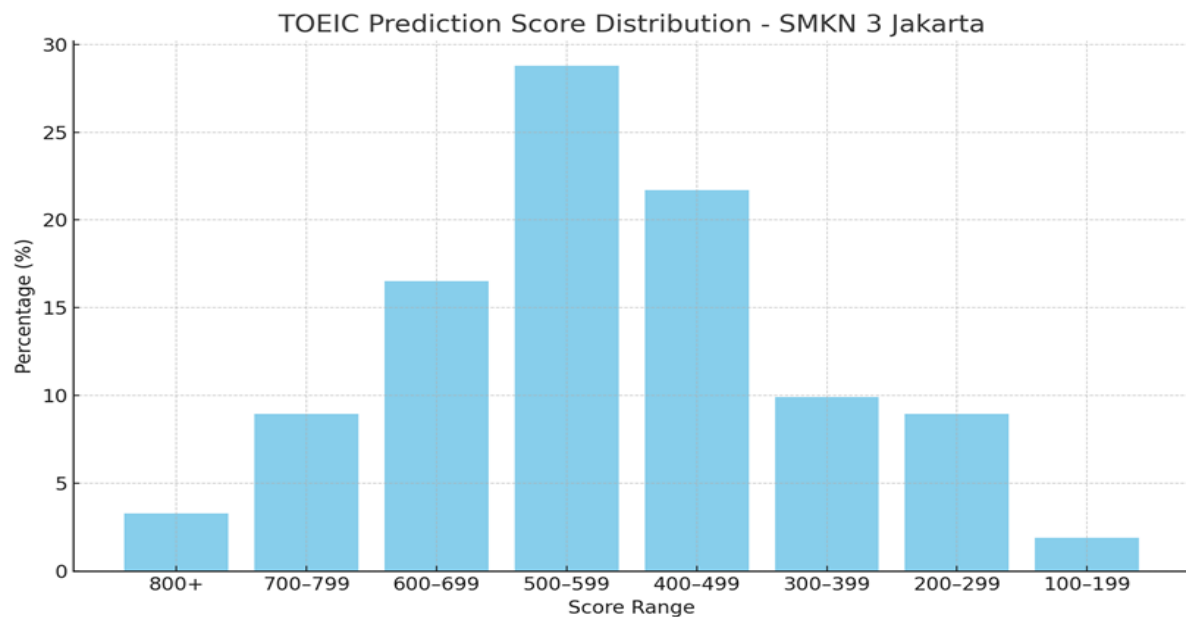
To facilitate analysis, students' TOEIC scores are classified into several value ranges, which are then presented in the form of tables and graphs to facilitate interpretation and evaluation.

The distribution of TOEIC Prediction Test score results is as follows:

Rentang Skor	Jumlah Siswa	Persentase (%)
800+	7	3.3%
700–799	19	8.96%
600–699	35	16.51%
500–599	61	28.77%
400–499	46	21.70%
300–399	21	9.91%
200–299	19	8.96%
100–199	4	1.89%

The majority of students (50.47%) have TOEIC scores in the range of 400–599, which is classified as intermediate. Only 12.26% of students achieved scores above 700, which can be said to be ready for communication in an international work environment. This shows that although some students show quite good results, the majority still need to improve their English skills.

The following is a graph of the distribution of TOEIC Prediction Test scores for SMKN 3 Jakarta students:

To further understand the meaning of the scores obtained by students in the TOEIC Prediction Test, a standard reference for English language ability as measured by TOEIC is needed. TOEIC scores not only reflect general language ability, but also indicate the extent to which a person is able to use English in a professional context, such as workplace communication, reading business documents, or interacting with foreign colleagues. The following is a reference for the level of work readiness based on the TOEIC score range that is commonly used by educational institutions and industry as an indicator of work communication ability:

Skor TOEIC	Level Kemampuan	Kesiapan Kerja
905 – 990	Advanced	Siap kerja di level internasional / profesional
785 – 900	Upper Intermediate	Siap kerja di perusahaan multinasional
605 – 780	Intermediate	Cukup untuk komunikasi kerja umum
405 – 600	Pre-Intermediate	Perlu peningkatan untuk komunikasi efektif
255 – 400	Basic	Masih lemah, tidak cukup untuk kerja formal

< 255 Beginner   Sangat dasar, butuh pelatihan intensif

IV. CONCLUSION

TOEIC Prediction Test can be used as an early indicator to assess the work readiness of vocational high school students in terms of English. The results from SMKN 3 Jakarta show that only a small number of students have achieved a level of communication skills that are in accordance with global industry standards. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen work-based English learning in the vocational high school environment.

There are several suggestions, namely: schools need to add TOEIC training sessions or test simulations periodically and collaborate with foreign language training institutions or industry to support student readiness.

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