



## Using A Whitesmoke Checker as A Technology To Enhance English Writing Classroom

**Siswandi**

Universitas Islam Negeri Sultan Syarif Kasim Riau, Indonesia  
*siswandi@uin-suska.ac.id*

### **Abstract**

This paper is to demonstrate how technology enhances writing in the classroom. The word processors should be part of every classroom to support students, especially those who have motor skills issues, because it indicated that technology allows students to enhance their writing by adding more precise detail into their writing pieces and it initiates self-revisions. Moreover, the use of technology to support the learning and understanding of language to students is essential because writing students tend to need proof of skills that they are learning. Literacy is learned through acquisition, but additional supports may be needed in order to attain the explicit knowledge, therefore technology may be an appropriate strategy to support struggling writers. Literacy development does not evolve within the course of a day. It evolves throughout the course of an individual life time.

*Keyword: technology, writing classroom, white-smoke*

### **A. Introduction**

The effective use of technology in education has changed the face of education and it has created more educational opportunities. Both teachers and students have benefited from various educational technologies, teachers have learned how to integrate technology in their classrooms and students are getting more interested in learning with technology. The use of technology in education has removed educational boundaries, both students and teachers can collaborate in real time using advanced educational technologies.

Technology has helped in the growth of mobile learning and long

distance learning. The use of internet technology has enabled teachers to reach students across borders and also students from developing countries have used internet technology to subscribe for advanced educational courses. Many universities and colleges have embraced online education by creating virtual classrooms. Online education is flexible and affordable, students can attend classrooms during their free time, and they can also have a chance to interact with other students virtually.

Technology can help learners and teachers to communicate with another. Some ICT tools which can use as the medium of information are: 1) Email, which allows language learners

to communicate with 'web pals' in other countries; 2) Tandem learning; 3) computer mediated discussion; 4) web-based learning environment; 5) audio conferencing; and 6) Video Conferencing.

Recent advancements in educational technologies have yielded positive results in our education sector. This new educational technology is supporting both teaching and learning processes, technology has digitized classrooms through digital learning tools like, computers, iPads, smartphones, smart digital white boards; it has expanded course offerings, it has increased student's engagement and motivation towards learning.

In context of language learning, using technology has an important role as the "media" bridging and enabling the learning process, or direct communication between students and teacher although they are not presented in the same room or place in certain time. Language learning program can be created to enable students to learn the lessons with guidance, instruction, information or further explanation. The technology in language learning, is used as a reference-book. Computer can store unlimited lessons or references which can be accessed anytime, anywhere and accurately.

In recent research, studies show that the use of integrating technology, such as the internet, enhances and improves students' overall writing abilities. According to Malloy and Gambrell (2006) "the internet exemplifies a growing literacy that engages readers of all ages and abilities." To engage students to become independent writers, Kara-Soteriou, Zawilinski, and Henry (2007) provide teachers with a list of resources on the internet to encourage students to

become better writers as they are completing their work. By using websites such as kidspiration.com and eatshootandleaves.com students can form ideas by creating graphic organizers and visual cues to inspire them to create essays and then they can visit easshootandleaves.com to practice with punctuation.

## **B. Discussion**

### **1. The Concept and Definition of WhiteSmoke**

In this final exam project, the writer recommends to use the application to enhance professional teacher in ELT context. The application is WhiteSmoke. It is a powerful and easy to use English writing and grammar check solution. It checks spelling, grammar and readability of written material. It also operates similarly to the Microsoft (MS) Office grammar and spelling checker, but it is more advanced and intelligent. Moreover, it automatically checks words in MS Word, e-mails when the writer write comments in web forms before sending or submitting them. It helps in composing any kind of written work, such as articles, essays and short stories. Then it quickly reduces or eliminates any grammatical errors. WhiteSmoke is compatible with many of the most common applications such as MS Outlook, MS Word, all chat programs or any text based application in the internet.

If a teacher or a student as a user struggle with the complexities of grammar and spelling rules, WhiteSmoke will be very useful for him/her. He/she does not need to be the best writer to qualify for a writing job, but he/she usually has more opportunities to know how to write

effectively. WhiteSmoke checker looks for spelling errors, grammatical errors and missing or misplaced punctuation marks.

WhiteSmoke has a greatly improved Type Checker, it is known as Style Checker that includes the WhiteSmoke patented Enrichment Technology and sets it apart from comparable services and other top-notch features that are very useful for writing. It contains more than 6 million enrichment corrections plus around 7.4 million grammar corrections. It also has an expanded dictionary and thesaurus available.

The current features had been specifically modified for making grammatically correct and stunning business documents. It enables the users (teachers and students) to add adjectives and adverbs in making user's writing look more professional; it helps to find the appropriate synonyms to each phrase written; find the correct definition of a word; it provides samples to teach students how to use certain words more effectively and performs a web search for each phrase you select. Medical writers will find the medical is a very useful software package.

The WhiteSmoke checker is based on an algorithm that reads blogs, newspapers and web pages on a daily basis and uses the information for editing prose based on the selected type of writing style. The grammar algorithms are periodically updated to further improve the precision of the checker over many kinds of possible construction of sentences.

English Software's patented writing solution checks and corrects writing by one clicking, so a user can easily make sure the messages are getting across the way she/he wants. Overall, the writer found that the

software is very easy to use and works right away. A user may use it in Ms Word, Powerpoint, Email, and even Facebook.

The new NLP (Natural Language Processing) technology built-in with this software really works. It has proven itself to work, and properly enriches any sentence or text without changing its meaning. After installing it, the writer just had to mark some texts and press F2 to get started. The built-in tutor (Works like a virtual teacher built-in) provides an instant feedback in the process of writing. When the writer started to use it at work, the co-workers were amazed at my proper grammar and spelling.

WhiteSmoke software lets users attain excellent English grammar, spelling and syntax in writing. A user can quickly improve his/her writing with suitable adjectives, adverbs, and words and phrases. WhiteSmoke's exclusive, branded Natural Language Processing technology, generates wording-based recommendations for synonyms and style-improvement. Its dictionaries offer in-depth information about usage, history, and the intricacies of meaning. Its proofreading and editing features fix grammar and spelling errors.

WhiteSmoke was created to tackle numerous flaws with other language checking softwares. It aids a user to enhance his/her English writing proficiency while mastering many dialects and grammar principles. WhiteSmoke is bundled with valuable advice to develop user's writing, analyze his/her writing in achieving perfect style and usage, and to critique his/her phrases and content for misspellings and syntax blunders.

WhiteSmoke examines each single sentence for weak syntax and grammatical mistakes. It will then

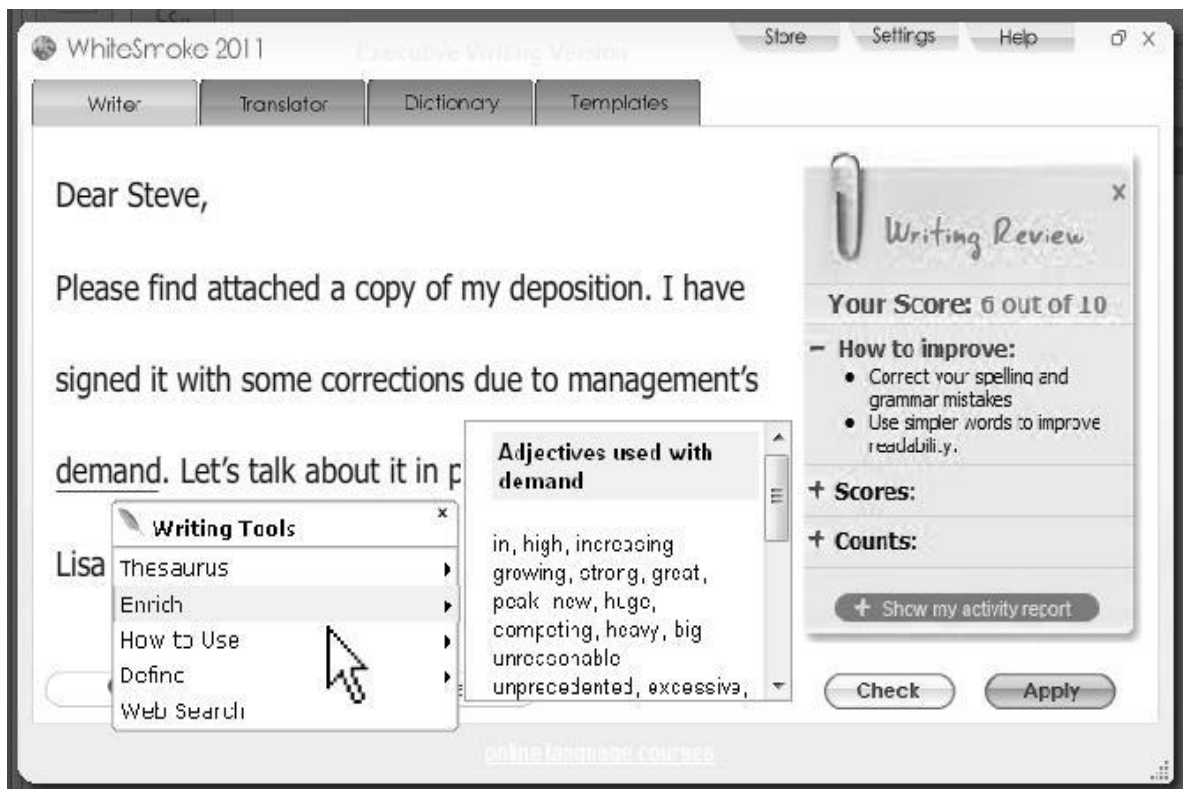
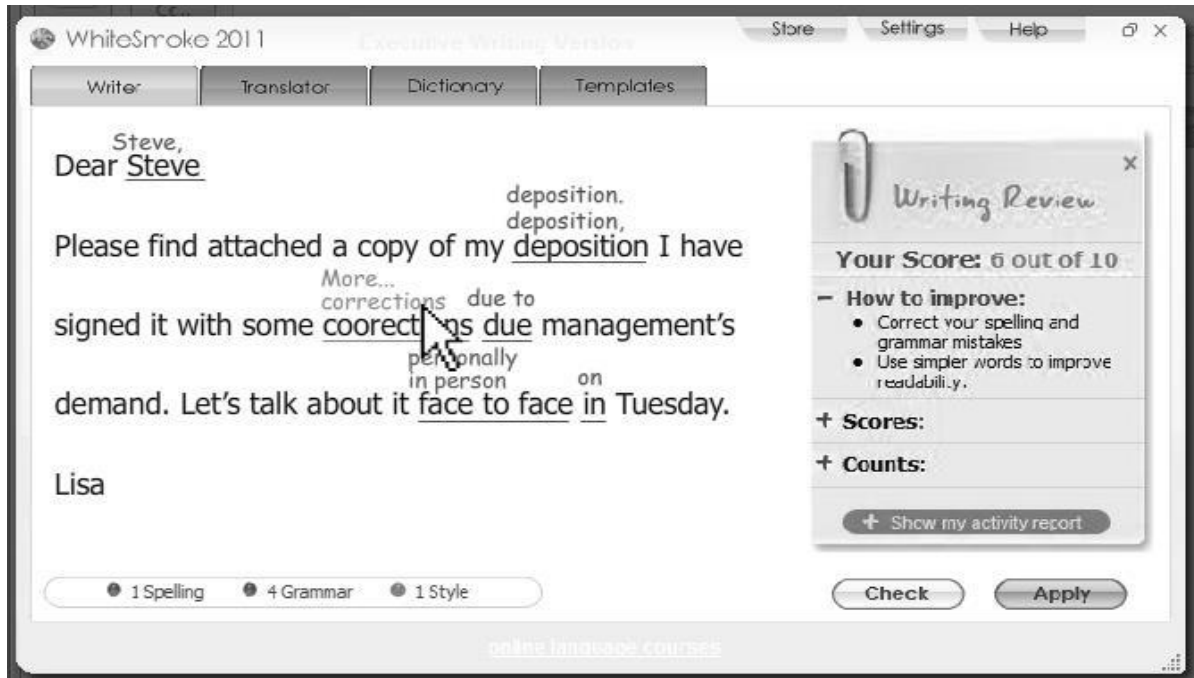
suggest ways to correct the mistakes. WhiteSmoke underlines all errors, and it'll pop up a display box offering recommendations. It also fixes all punctuation problems. The program analyzes the text with a massive data bank of contents, words, syntaxs, and all sorts of likely faults. It will identify misplaced punctuation, for instance, a missing quotation mark or an absent missing period—apparent problems that his/her most likely overlooked as a result of working too fast. In addition, it locates and fixes less noticeable punctuation errors, like a colon that a user should have made a dash or an apostrophe that his/her inserted in the wrong spot.

Users can use WhiteSmoke to help them in writing various documents: articles or blog posts, fiction and non-fiction stories, educational texts, endorsement letters, research reports, business communications, thesis papers, dissertations, and cover letters, resumes, and resignation letters.

WhiteSmoke is a complete software aspiring or experienced writers. A few of its features include:

1. Grammar Checker: The best state-of-the-art grammar checker available.
2. Style Checker : One of a kind writing style reviewing to enhance your language and syntax.
3. Spell Checker: Advanced spell checking for typing errors and contextual spelling problems.
4. Punctuation Checker: Innovative punctuation analyzing for misplaced commas, periods, dashes, etc.
5. Writing Review: A thorough writing score for your content, driven by different analytics.
6. Error Explanations: Gain knowledge from your grammar errors and strengthen your writing skills as you correct!
7. Dictionary-Thesaurus: Definitions, synonyms, word alternatives, in a one-click dictionary-thesaurus.
8. Writing Templates: Begin any letter, correspondence, paper or document easily.

These are some examples of the WhiteSmoke views:



## 2. The Rationale of WhiteSmoke in ELT Class

In this software, the writer promotes it in ELT class because it has many benefits in learning English,

particularly in writing. A teacher or a lecturer could use this software in ELT class because this software could improve the students' writing and grammar.

WhiteSmoke is the most comprehensive grammar checker in the world today. It comprises several writing tools, such as a dictionary, a thesaurus and ready-made letter templates, its core feature is its advanced grammar checker. This software provides advanced options that other programs such as Microsoft Word do not provide. It is the most comprehensive grammar checker in the world today. While it comprises several writing tools, such as a dictionary, a thesaurus and ready-made letter templates, its core feature is its advanced grammar checker.

WhiteSmoke is optimized to correct the majority of mistakes in written English texts. It uses Natural Language Processing (NLP) to correct errors that are commonly made in the process of writing.

### **3. Applying WhiteSmoke in the Classroom**

In the classroom, the teachers or students could utilize this software, especially in teaching writing. After the teacher explains about how to write an essay, she/he would ask the students to write an essay, after that lets them to check their friends' writing by using WhiteSmoke, and they could also see the errors of their own writing and discuss it together with the teacher.

It also could be used when the students write an abstract of the thesis. It is very helpful to reduce the their writing errors and will help the advisor's job because this software helps to correct the grammar errors in students' writing.

WhiteSmoke also offers templates on various writing styles. The templates include samples of business letters, cover letters, resumes, legal writing, personal matters, finance

writing and students matters. In order to see the templates, a user may click the "Templates" tab on the top bar of the WhiteSmoke window. Furthermore, the students can also access the Templates by right clicking the WhiteSmoke tray icon (near the computer clock) and choose Templates.

Hence, the teacher just shows some templates of the letters sample and then the students could write the letters by checking the format in writing the letters in the templates of WhiteSmoke. It will be easier for students to write the letters because there are some samples to write the letters.

It also could be used to teach how to make a poem. Writing poetry can frustrate tremendously and reward beyond words; a few tips on writing poetry may help users to find the treasures. WhiteSmoke English Writing Software provides useful writing poetry. First, there is no single poem in the rules of writing. Many writers want to know how to write a love poem, lyric poetry, a poem about writing, a haiku poem, a narrative poem. Each has its own writing style. A poetry is written in forms, each form has its own rules. It is free verse, which either creates its own set of unique rules for that poem or has no rules.

It is possible when writing an English poem, the students should use be creative in using language clearly. WhiteSmoke can help the students when they are writing poetry with its synonym finder. Its English language enhancement feature suggests adjectives and adverbs that will cause writers language sparkly. Eventhough it is not exactly a poetry writing lesson, WhiteSmoke writing software improves the writers creative writing beyond measure. Whether they are writing poetry in order to publish a poem, for a

poetry writing assignment, or to enter a poetry writing contest, White-Smoke will help students in writing their poems.

In short, WhiteSmoke is very useful to get help writing poetry from an experienced writer. This writing software corrects the errors before

### Start using WhiteSmoke

Step 1:



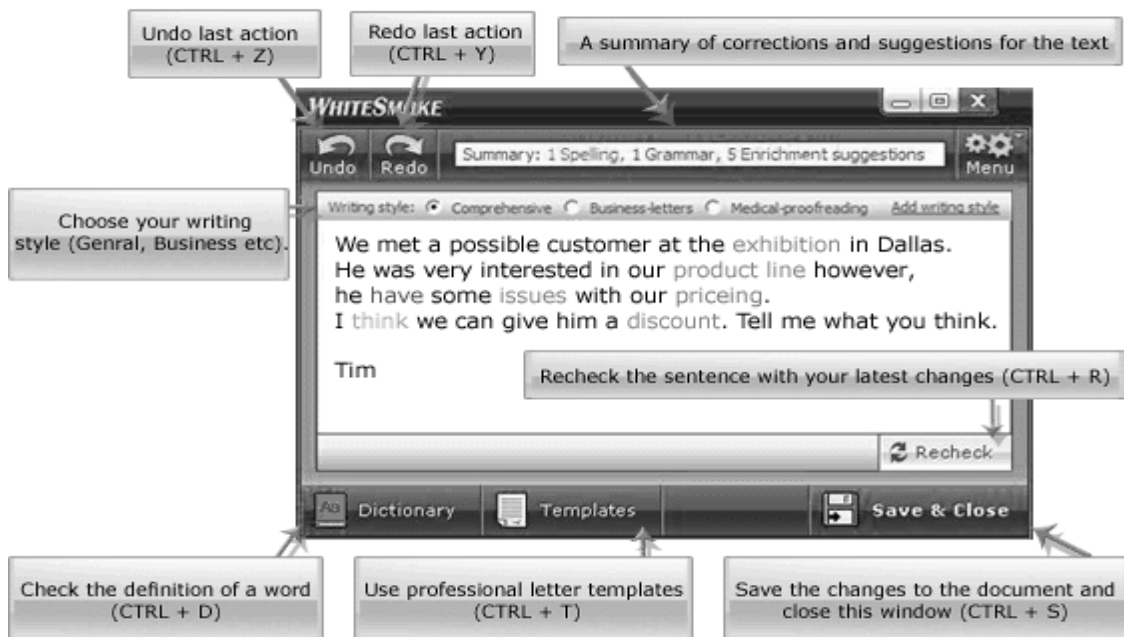
taking the poem to someone in teaching poetry writing. It might help writer in learning how to write rhyming poetry, writing a concrete poem, or just to help someone learn how to write a good poem.

How to apply WhiteSmoke:

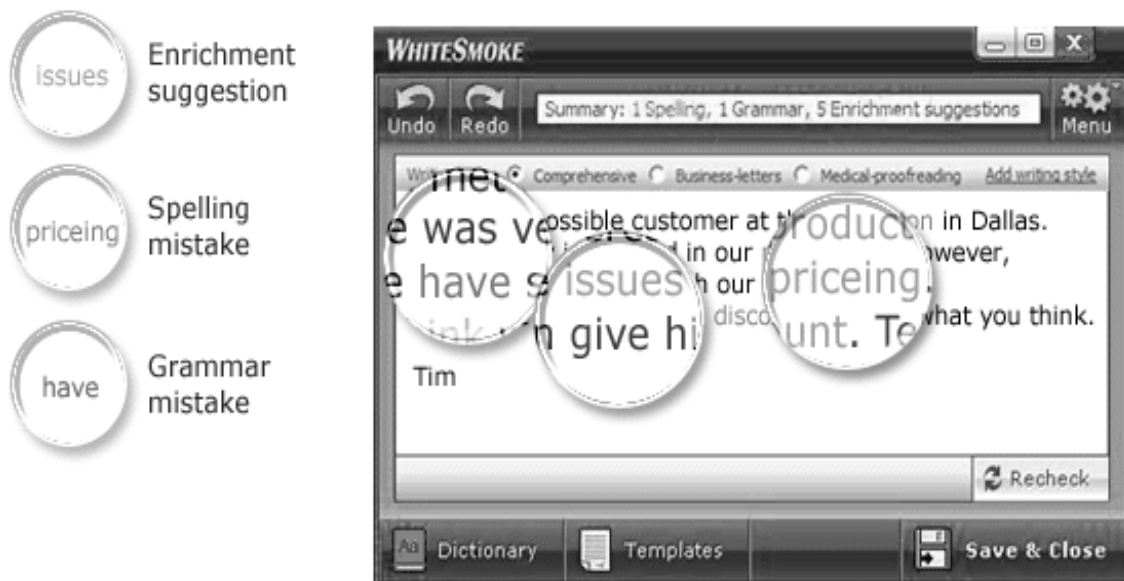
Step 2:



User guide - Main window - Exploring the main window



### Understanding Whitesmoke's corrections and suggestions

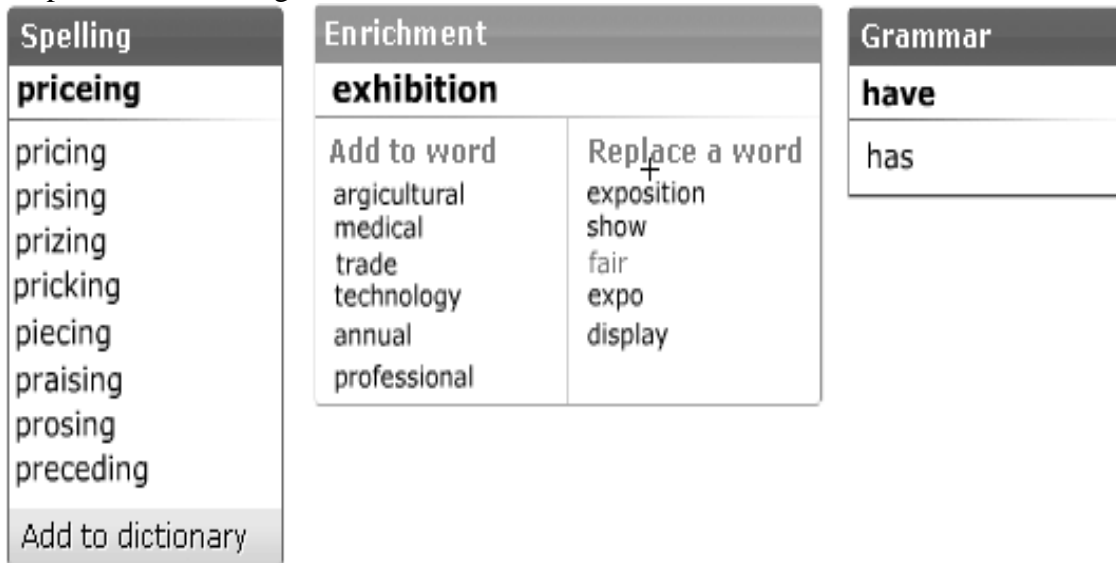




### Making changes to the text

Step 1 : Click on a marked word.

Step 2: Choose the right correction.



Add to word - adds a word before "exhibition".

Replace a word - replaces "exhibition" with a relevant synonym.

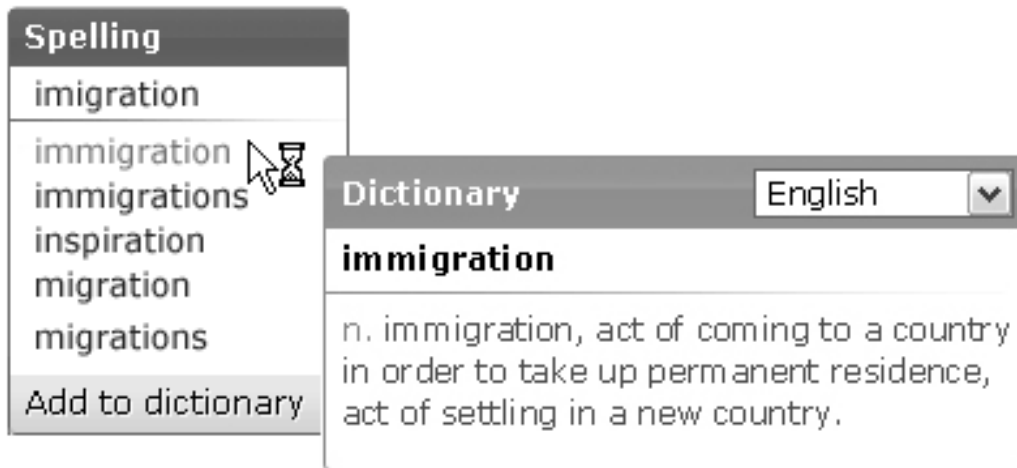
Add to dictionary - WhiteSmoke will not mark this word as spelling mistake.

### Choose the right writing style according to your text for more relevant enrichment suggestions.



### Using the WhiteSmoke Dictionary With the WhiteSmoke screen

When working within the WhiteSmoke interface. Place the mouse on the desired word and wait for the dictionary definition.

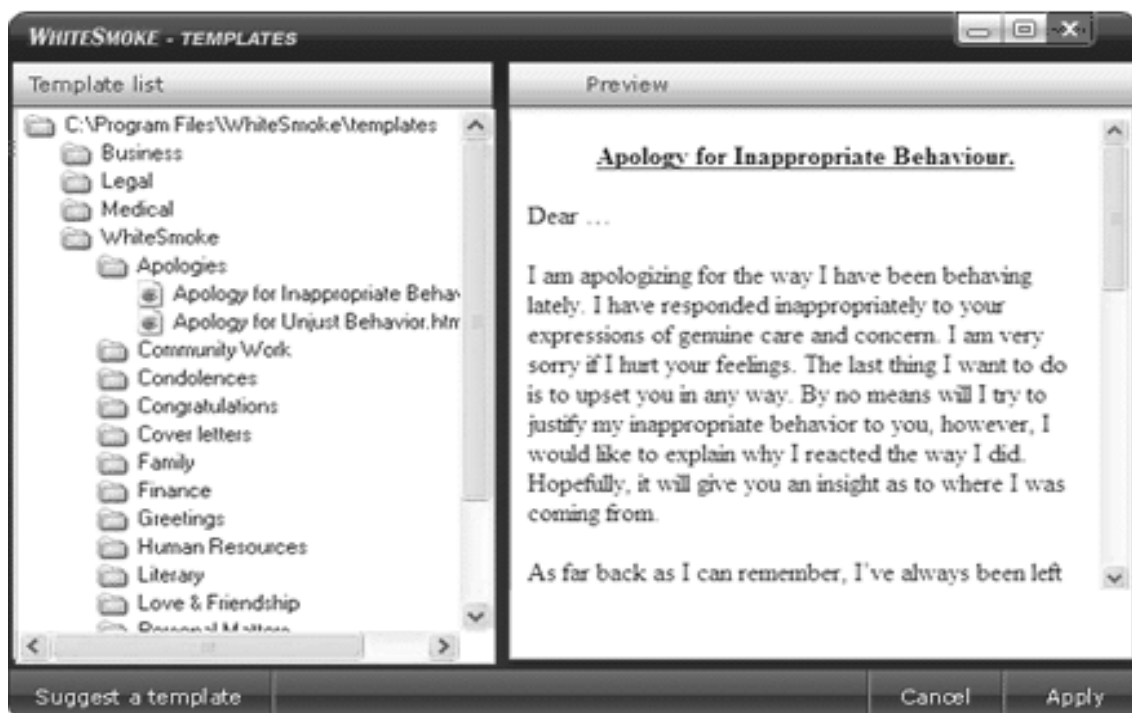


Translation into one of 18 languages will be available for users who purchased the translation module.

### Using WhiteSmoke Templates

#### Browse and use pre-written document templates for various purposes

Choose a template, and press the "Apply" button to continue working on it in the WhiteSmoke screen.



### Using WhiteSmoke's pop-up Notifier

WhiteSmoke alerts you of writing mistakes in any application as you type.



#### 4. Pedagogical Concepts of ELT to Support the Argument of Integrating Technology into EFL classroom.

Computers were first introduced to the language learning field in the 1960s as CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) and many enthusiasts strongly advocated their use, espousing the many advantages they could bring to both language learners and teachers. More recently, information and communication technology (ICT) in the form of e-learning and the Internet have presented additional benefits to the learning environment as they enable the integration of virtually unlimited multimedia learning materials from external sources into the curriculum and make them available to students at any location in the world (distance education) where there is a computer, mobile phone or tablet device with Internet access (Alsunbul, 2002).

The application of computer technologies in language instruction provides a student-center learning

environment. It enables course administrators and teachers to inflect lesson presentation styles to motivate students of transforming interests, provides learning opportunities outside the classroom (hence increasing learner interaction in the language), and is perceived to cater more for individual differences. According to Yaverbaum, Kulkarni and Wood (1997), integrating multimedia into the traditional learning environment not only enriches the styles of presentation, but also has the advantage of increasing language retention.

The education environment is being changed by technology; the main goal of technology is to make things easier, so the use of technology in education has brought a new horizon in our education sectors. Students enjoy learning with technology and teachers have formulated more ways of integrating technology in classrooms. Many schools and teachers are appreciating the functions of technology in education. In the beginning, it was very difficult to convince teachers and

schools to integrate technology in classrooms, some teachers could not find ways of integrating technology in the classroom, yet others thought that if they bring educational technology in the classroom, they might lose their jobs.

Technology is not as a threat, teachers and students must integrate it intensely in their academic curriculum, and educational technology to simplify the job of teachers and school administrators, but it even simplifies the learning processes. Students may find it easy to learn by technology because it keeps them excited and creative. However, teachers have to teach students how to use technology to learn different subjects. Educational technology supports individual learning, so students will find it comfortable if they learn on their own ways without assisted by his/her teacher. Individual learning creates room for making mistakes and it creates space for learning from our own mistakes without being criticized by anyone.

There are some of the best new technologies in education, these can be used to enhance the learning process of students and it can also be used by teachers to reach more students worldwide.

*a. Flashnote*

Flashnotes has just changed the way student access academic information. Students from different universities use the network to sell and buy educative academic notes. This material is submitted by creative students who know more about specific subjects. The notes submitted can be bought by another student from the same or different university. The mission

of Flashnotes is to empower students to exchange the educational material to supplement on their learning experience.

*b. Lore*

Students can use LORE to learn more and teachers can use the same network to teach more students. Learning should not be at school only; but also at any given moment, learning is limitless. Teachers and instructors get chances to reach more students, simply join the LORE network and create a course, and then students will join that course with a great aim of learning. This is more of a social network of education.

However, for students who join any course on this platform, they need a course code from an instructor or teacher who is using LORE. To gain access, they need to ask the instructor or teacher for the code.

*c. Study-Blue*

Study-Blue technology supports both online and mobile learning; students can have a chance to learn using StudyBlue mobile App. For students who want to learn individually, this is a great educational technology for you because no one will force you to learn and nobody will tell you that you cannot learn what you want to learn. StudyBlue is made for both students and teachers to unlock boring learning and teaching environments. Teachers can use

StudyBlue to teach what they want, engage the students with StudyBlue technology both in and out of the classroom, this technology will help the teachers reach their students at anytime from anywhere.

Teachers can make flashcards for their students to study, and then students can ask them selves' questions from these flashcards and also track their mastery of key concepts

#### *d. Paper-Tab*

Both teachers and students are using tablets at school as an educational tool. This PaperTab is making the process of learning even more interesting. PaperTab has a flexible touchscreen which can allow users to send files or browse through pages of documents using hand gestures. This PaperTab looks and feels like a real paper, it can file and display 1000's of paper documents which replaces the need for a computer to save your academic documents.

There are other technologies can be used to enhance the learning process of students that can also be used by teachers, Website and software could be used in learning process. One of the best software that could be used is WhiteSmoke.

English as a second language learners increases business-writing skill and confidence with WhiteSmoke. According to Anthony Bent, Ed.D, a Massachusetts public education and language acquisition authority who reviewed WhiteSmoke, "Software that can help guide the transition from

language learning of the classroom to its application in the office is invaluable - especially for those who have learned English as a second language and are now advancing in their careers as knowledge workers."

WhiteSmoke is used by individuals as well as corporate executives, HR professionals, and sales & marketing managers who want to make their e-mail, report and other writing more understandable, powerful and error-free. It is also ideal for writing résumés that will be posted on monster.com.

Bruce Birt, CEO of Know Your Coast LLC, an Oregon real estate firm, bought WhiteSmoke to help write copy for the company website in-house. He stated that he realized that his basic writing skills could use a higher power. Since he is not able to hire a professional writer, he is going at it by himself. The WhiteSmoke Product has been very useful in allowing him to catch mistakes in grammar or spelling immediately. Univeristy and graduate school students, creative writers and those who want to improve personal correspondence are also among WhiteSmoke customers.

#### **C. Conclusion**

It is written and continued by claiming that because technology has made it easier to compose and revise for students who are becoming better writers and readers. The majority of the students made the same distinctions about technology and writing. Therefore, that might be one reason why it is easier to use the computer in writing because of the resources that are on it.

In future discussion, it is necessary to conduct such a research that would interview more classroom

teachers across grade levels to get their input on how they incorporate technology in their classroom. If they think technology enhances their students' writing abilities. Otherwise, it might also be focused on the students thought process incorporating their writing through technology. It would also be interesting to compare the thoughts of new teachers versus teachers who have been teaching for a bit of time.

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