

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-53768**

Date: 10/09/2025

Title: ELT in the Margins: A Competency-Based Inquiry into Blended English Instruction in Maluku's Outer Regions

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

✓Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		√		
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity			√	
Significance		√		

Reviewer Name: Dr **Touseef Malik**

Date: 10/09/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

This paper explores the integration of competency-based instruction (CBI) and blended learning to enhance English language teaching (ELT) in remote Maluku, Indonesia. Using a qualitative case study design, it highlights how infrastructural challenges, low digital literacy, and teacher training gaps hinder educational equity. The research provides actionable recommendations, offering theoretical and practical significance for education in marginalized contexts.

Recommendation: Accept after minor revision

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths:

- Contextual Relevance:**
Focuses on ELT in marginalized island regions, addressing a crucial yet under-researched area.
- Methodological Clarity:**
The qualitative case study approach is well-justified and aligned with research objectives.
- Balanced Perspective:**
Presents both challenges and innovative practices, emphasizing teacher resilience and adaptability.
- Comprehensive Literature Review:**
Draws from global and local studies to contextualize findings effectively.
- Practical Implications:**
Offers actionable recommendations for policymakers and educators, supporting inclusive education.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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Weaknesses:

- 1. Abstract Concise:**
The abstract is detailed but could be condensed for clarity and quick comprehension.
- 2. Data Analysis Details:**
More explicit descriptions of coding, triangulation, and analysis methods would strengthen rigor.
- 3. Visual Representation:**
A summary table or conceptual model illustrating the interaction between CBI and blended learning would enhance readability.
- 4. Scalability Discussion:**
The paper could further explore how these findings can inform national or regional education policies.
- 5. Formatting Adjustments:**
Consistency in referencing style and headings would improve professional presentation.