

# DEVELOPMENT OF HSK 4 (汉语水平考试四级) [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] DIGITAL TEACHING MATERIALS

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**Abstract:** The Mandarin language skills of foreign speakers can be measured through the standard Mandarin language test, namely HSK. HSK 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì] is a Mandarin language proficiency test standardized by the People's Republic of China and intended for non-native speakers. Mandarin Language Education Study Program students are required to pass the HSK 4 test as one of the graduation requirements. Researchers as lecturers who teach HSK 4 preparation courses need to innovate by creating learning media that can increase student enthusiasm in preparing for the HSK 4 test, as well as increase the HSK 4 test pass rate for students. This development research uses the ADDIE development model with five stages, namely: analysis, design, development, implementation and evaluation. The aim of this research is to develop HSK 4 digital teaching materials with Indonesian explanations so that students can understand them easily. This HSK 4 digital teaching material with Indonesian explanations contains material on 词汇 (vocabulary), 意思 (meaning), 例句 (example sentences). The results of this research show that the HSK 4 digital teaching materials with Indonesian language explanations are easy to understand, interesting and suitable for use for studying HSK 4 preparation courses.

**Keywords:** Teaching material, digital, HSK 4, Mandarin

## INTRODUCTION

The Mandarin language skills of foreign speakers can be measured through the standard Mandarin language test, namely HSK. HSK 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì] is a Mandarin language proficiency test standardized by the People's Republic of China and intended for non-native speakers. Sumei (2012) explains that 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì] HSK is an international standard Mandarin language proficiency test launched by Chinese government agencies, which focuses on participants' ability to communicate in Mandarin in daily life, study and work. Mandarin language learners are expected to take the HSK test to determine their ability to speak Mandarin, as are students of the Mandarin language education study program at Universitas Negeri Malang who are expected to pass the HSK 4 test when they graduate. Fatimah (2016) explains that HSK level 1 requires students to be able to master 150 vocabulary, HSK level 2 requires students to master 300 vocabulary, HSK level 3 requires students to be able to master 600 vocabulary, HSK level 4 requires students to be able to master 1200 vocabulary, HSK level 5 requires students to master 2500 vocabulary words and HSK level 6 requires students to master 5000 vocabulary words. Biduri (2013) explains that the HSK levels consist of basic levels, namely HSK levels 1 and 2, intermediate levels, namely levels 3 and 4, and advanced levels, namely levels 5 and 6.

HSK 4 test results are one of the minimum requirements for obtaining work in the Mandarin language field, such as Mandarin translator, Mandarin teacher, etc., so the HSK 4 test is important for students of the Mandarin Language education study program, Universitas Negeri Malang. The majority of students at the Mandarin Language Education Study Program, State University of Malang are local Indonesians, so Mandarin is a second language. For local Indonesian people, learning Mandarin is different from their mother tongue (Indonesian), because Mandarin and Indonesian have many differences, so they experience difficulties in learning Mandarin, especially in writing essays in Mandarin.

The importance of HSK 4 (汉语水平考试四级) [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] for graduates of Mandarin language education study programs means that the Mandarin Language Education Study Program curriculum at Universitas Negeri Malang includes HSK 4 preparation courses to prepare students to take the HSK 4 test (汉语水平考试四级) [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí]. HSK 4 is considered difficult by the majority of Mandarin language learners. This is in line with the opinion of Putri, et al (2018) who explained that students often encounter difficulties when taking HSK 4 courses. (汉语水平考试四级) [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] The HSK 4 test which is held internally by this study program is not an official and certified HSK 4 test, because it only aims to measure students' abilities after taking HSK 4 preparatory courses. Researchers as lecturers who teach HSK 4 preparatory courses need to innovate by creating learning media that can increasing student enthusiasm in preparing for the HSK 4 test, as well as increasing the pass rate for the HSK 4 test for students.

Considering the importance of the HSK 4 test for Mandarin Language Education Study Program students, innovation in learning media is needed in HSK 4 preparation courses. Students think this course is very important but it is not balanced with the variety of learning media used during lectures. Previous research on the development of Mandarin language teaching materials was carried out by Safitri (2016) who developed Mandarin language teaching materials for class X high school students. Meanwhile research on HSK 4 was previously carried out by Hervandaningtyas (2016). Hervandaningtyas' (2016) research analyzed student errors in working on HSK questions with 4 random word parts. Hervandaningtyas (2016) found that students made many mistakes in using Mandarin grammar in HSK 4 random word problems.

This development research has in common with Safitri's (2016) development research is that they both develop Mandarin language teaching materials. Meanwhile, the difference between this development research and the development carried out by Safitri (2016) lies in the material contained in the teaching materials. Safitri (2016), meanwhile in this research developed digital teaching materials with Mandarin syntax material. What this research has in common with research conducted by Hervandaningtyas (2016) is that they both research HSK 4, while the difference lies in the type of research. Hervandaningtyas's research (2016) analyzed students' ability errors in working on HSK 4, while this research developed HSK 4 teaching materials.

## METHOD

This research is development research which aims to develop a product in the form of digital teaching materials HSK 4 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] in the Indonesian version. In line with this statement, Gay (1990) stated that development research is an effort to develop effective products, and not to test theories. This research uses the Research and Development (R&D) method with stages: (1) analyzing the problem, (2) collecting data, (3) designing the product, (4) validating the product, (5) revising the product. This development

research uses an instrument in the form of a questionnaire to obtain data from material experts and media experts during the product development process.

The validation results of the HSK 4 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials in the Indonesian version developed in this research were analyzed using a Likert scale. Taluke (2019) states that the Likert scale is a psychometric scale commonly used in questionnaires, and is the scale most widely used in research in the form of surveys. Questionnaire instrument in this development research was used to obtain information in the form of suggestions and comments from material experts and media experts regarding the HSK 4 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials being developed. Data in the form of suggestions and comments from media experts and material experts are used by researchers as a reference for revising or improving HSK 4 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials. HSK 4 汉语水平考试 digital materials can be concluded as appropriate if the results of the questionnaire from media experts and material experts regarding HSK 4 汉语水平考试 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials reach the minimum criteria of "good".

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

A teaching material must be arranged systematically and contain learning components. This is reinforced by the opinion of Prastowo (2011) who states that the elements that must be present in teaching materials include: instructions, competencies to be achieved, supporting information, exercises, worksheets and evaluation. For this reason, the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials contain a foreword, table of contents, background, short description, concept map, benefits, learning outcomes, learning activities, exercises, conclusion and bibliography.

The main material in this digital teaching material is about HSK 4 material including 词汇 (vocabulary), 意思 (meaning), and 例句 (example sentences). The Likert scale allows respondents to share their opinions on a statement, ranging from the lowest to the highest level. In line with this opinion, Djaali (2008), The Likert scale is utilized to assess the attitudes, opinions, and perceptions of individuals or groups concerning an educational symptom or phenomenon. In this study, a Likert scale was used to measure the results of a questionnaire from experts regarding HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials. In research into the development of the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital module, the following outcomes were achieved:

### a. Media expert questionnaire results

The assessment questionnaire sheet relating to HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials is filled out by media experts to find out media experts' responses to HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials.

**Table 2.1. Table of media expert questionnaire results**

No	Aspect	Percentage	Criteria
1	HSK 4 汉语水平考试 digital teaching material design is good	92%	Very good
2	Layout of HSK 4 teaching materials is good	92%	Very good

3	The color combination in the HSK 4 汉语水平考试 digital teaching materials is attractive.	94%	Very good
4	Ease of accessing digital teaching materials independently	98%	Very good
5	The legibility of the letters on the HSK 4 digital teaching materials is clear	98%	Very good

Based on the results of a questionnaire by media experts regarding the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital module, it shows that the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching material is appropriate and effective for use in learning, as demonstrated by the results obtained based on the five criteria above which consist of aspects of teaching material design, the layout aspect, the color combination aspect, the ease of access aspect, and the legibility aspect of the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] teaching materials as a whole are appropriate and stated to be very good.

b. Material expert questionnaire results

The assessment questionnaire sheet relating to digital teaching material media is filled in by material experts to find out the material expert's response to the content of HSK 4 digital teaching material.

**Table 2.2 Table of material expert questionnaire results**

No	Aspek	Presentase	Kriteria
1	Accuracy of language used in digital teaching materials HSK 4 汉语水平考试	94%	Very good
2	Vocabulary suitability to HSK 4 material	94%	Very good
3	Accuracy of meaning in vocabulary material	95%	Very good
4	Accuracy of sentence examples	96%	Very good
5	Accuracy of Hanzi Writing	93%	Very good

Based on the results of the material expert questionnaire regarding the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] teaching materials, it shows that the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials are interesting and suitable for use in learning Mandarin Syntax courses. This is proven by the results obtained based on 5 criteria, namely aspects of language accuracy, vocabulary suitability, meaning accuracy, sentence example accuracy, and Hanzi writing accuracy, all of which are appropriate and declared very good.

Comments and suggestions from media experts and material experts:

**Table 2.3. Table of summary feedback and suggestions from media and material experts**

Validator	Comments and suggestions
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Media Expert	The layout of the HSK 4 digital teaching materials is neat, the color combination is attractive, but it is necessary to change the colors in several parts so that the writing appears clearer
Material Expert	The content is in accordance with HSK 4 material, there are several Hanzi spelling errors and need to be replaced.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion in this research which have been explained above, there are two conclusions, namely: first, the product developed in this research can be described as a digital learning teaching material, second, namely the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching material developed is suitable for use in learning the HSK 4 Preparatory Course. Media experts and material experts are of the opinion that the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials have an attractive appearance and color, the material is in accordance with the material in HSK 4, and is easy to access and use independently. However, the HSK 4 汉语水平考试四级 [Hànyǔ shuǐpíng kǎoshì sì jí] digital teaching materials are only limited to 词汇 (vocabulary), 意思 (meaning), 例句 (example sentences). It is recommended that future researchers or developers be able to develop digital teaching materials with more in-depth HSK 4 material so that they can add references to teaching materials, especially for HSK 4 material.

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