

THE TEACHER AND THE STUDENTS' RESPONSES OF ANDROID APP ENGLISH LISTENING STEP BY STEP AT MA AL MUNAWAR KUNCI BOJONEGORO IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020

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Abstract

There was still another problem found in the teaching of the listening skill. Teachers should find some appropriate media to apply in classroom that makes students be able to understand narrative text through listening. Concerning to the discussion of this research, the media will be used for the students is by using the use of Android App is a kind of application that enables all users to learn English listening independently. The objective of the study is to describe the implementation of Android app in teaching the tenth graders' listening skill in narrative text at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in academic year 2019/2020. This research is a descriptive qualitative research. Research respondents were the tenth graders who were selected with the snowball sampling technique. The analysis technique of this research is descriptive analysis with extension observation technique. The result of this research was the implementation of the Android app in teaching the tenth graders' listening skills in narrative text at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in academic year 2019/2020 run well and give many advantages for the students and the English teacher. During using this application, they have known about the correct pronunciation by native speakers' sounds they have downloaded before and various vocabularies in the readings.

Key words: *listening skill, narrative, android app*

Abstrak

Masih ada masalah lain yang ditemukan dalam pengajaran keterampilan menyimak. Guru hendaknya menemukan beberapa media yang sesuai untuk diterapkan di kelas yang membuat siswa mampu memahami teks naratif melalui menyimak. Mengenai pembahasan penelitian ini, media yang akan digunakan untuk siswa adalah dengan menggunakan aplikasi Android yaitu aplikasi sejenis yang memungkinkan semua pengguna untuk belajar bahasa Inggris menyimak secara mandiri. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan penerapan aplikasi Android dalam pembelajaran keterampilan menyimak teks naratif pada siswa kelas X di MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro tahun ajaran 2019/2020. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif deskriptif. Responden penelitian adalah siswa kelas X yang dipilih dengan teknik snowball sampling. Teknik analisis penelitian ini adalah analisis deskriptif dengan teknik observasi ekstensi. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah penerapan aplikasi Android dalam pembelajaran keterampilan menyimak teks naratif pada siswa kelas X di MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro tahun ajaran 2019/2020 berjalan dengan baik dan memberikan banyak manfaat bagi siswa dan guru bahasa Inggris. Selama menggunakan aplikasi ini,

mereka telah mengetahui tentang pengucapan yang benar dari suara penutur asli yang telah mereka unduh sebelumnya dan berbagai kosakata dalam bacaan.

Kata kunci : *keterampilan mendengarkan, naratif, aplikasi android*

INTRODUCTION

The language skill achieved, is divided into two parts of language function, namely oral and written English as a means of communication. In this case, listening and speaking are oral language, while reading and writing are written language. As Tarigan (2008: 1) states that in getting language skill, we usually pass some phases in our life, namely when we were a child, originally, we started to listen, then speak up, after that, we started to read and write.

There are four basic skills being required to have in teaching English. This is in line with Tarigan's explanation about language skills; there are four elements of language in the curriculum of school, such as 1) listening skills; 2) speaking skills; 3) reading skills; and 4) writing skills (Tarigan, 2008: 1). In Indonesia, English is very important to communicate with other people from foreign countries. English has become a curriculum in many educational institutions, like junior and high senior school, courses, and university. There are many components of English language that should be mastered for someone who wants to learn this language, such as vocabulary, structure, grammar, pronunciation, and etc.

The use of English as communication language is increasingly dominant. It covers spoken and written language. For spoken language, listening skills are crucial since before being able to

speak, one should be exposed to and learn various models of spoken language. This is with what listening materials provide learners. In so doing, it is important to teach students listening skills.

In fact, English, as the foreign language is not as easy as mastered by the students as their mother tongue. The students feel English is quite difficult to understand. This idea brings a big effect to the process of learning. They have a low spirit in learning English and they are not really interested in learning it because they think English is difficult and confusing. Based on this term, teacher has an important role in teaching and learning activity and pays more attention to this problem because teaching activity will not run well if there is not a good interaction between teachers and students.

However, in general, the students of the tenth grade of senior high schools experience difficulties to understand the dialogues and monologues in recordings. It was what the writer found when the writer conducted an interview with the English teacher of MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro and a classroom observation in Class X. The students had difficulties in understanding real-life accents of native speakers and cultural differences that the listening materials contained.

As a consequence, those problems blocked the students' understanding about the listening materials. They made it difficult for

the students to find both general information and detail information from the listening materials. This problem got worse since the students lacked vocabulary important to understand the materials. There was still another problem found in the teaching of the listening skill, such as the use of the language laboratory which could be a problem due the class' management which was not well-organized causing the students to lose concentration from moving from their usual classrooms to the language laboratory. English teacher of MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro added that a few students from one of tenth grade's class still have difficulty to understand the content of the text in listening session. It has been the issue for the teacher to take appropriate solution right away.

Due to the reason above, it is important to find out the solution to solve the students' listening skill problem and to improve their motivation in listening. Teachers should find some appropriate media to apply in classroom that makes students be able to understand narrative text through listening. Concerning to the discussion of this research, the media will be used for the students is by using the use of Android App.

However, according to Eric Ashby's statement quoted in Arnanda Setyawan's research, the educational revolution has entered the fifth revolution. The fifth revolution occurred when the advent of Information and Communication Technology. For example, mobile learning is the latest ICT advancement in education where mobile devices are used as learning media that contain a variety of subject matter or practical aids so that they can be used at school

and outside of school, and are easier, and lighter when brought (Setyawan, 2012: 2). This is also in line with Kemp and Dayton's theory of the contribution of learning media, one of which is that the learning process can take place whenever and wherever necessary (Daryanto, 2010: 6). Of course the android application for learning English is a concrete example that today learning can be done anywhere and anytime by utilizing technological advancements.

"English Listening Step by Step" is a kind of application that enables all users to learn English listening independently or with teacher assistance through various audio-based transcripts that can entertain and stimulate them to learn English more. In this application, the users can also try out some questions in every types of listening transcript to test their understanding. Regarding the advantages of this application, the writer think it would be more interesting if the students can learn listening narrative through this application. Therefore, the writer would like to find out the students' listening skill in narrative text through the implementation this application.

Based on the background of the problem above, the writer is interested to analyze it into scientific research that will be given title "The Teacher and the Students' Responses of Android App English Listening Step by Step at Ma Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in Academic Year 2019/2020".

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is descriptive. According to Sugiyono (2017: 19), descriptive research is the research that describes condition or value of one of more variables independently. In this research, the writer does not make any

comparation between the variables to another sample, and find out the correlation of the variables with the others.

Meanwhile, this research uses qualitative methods. Qualitative research methods can be interpreted as research methods based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to examine natural conditions of objects, (as opposed to experiments) where researchers as key instruments, data collection techniques are carried out by triangulation (combined), data analysis is inductive/qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize understanding of meaning, and construct phenomena rather than generalization (Sugiyono, 2017: 26). In this study, the information obtained was analyzed qualitatively. Information can be in the form of transcripts of interviews, field notes, documents and or visual materials, such as photos, videos, material from the internet and other documents.

The subject of this study was the tenth graders at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro who had followed the learning from their English teachers using an android application. While the object of this research was the application of the use of Android itself in learning narrative text listening skills, in this case, that is "English Listening Step by Step".

To obtain data as material in the discussion of this thesis, researcher used the following methods:

1. Observation method

Observation is a technique used to collect data in this study. According to Usman and Setiady (2009: 52), observation is a systematic observation and recording of the symptoms studied. This observation method, the researcher intends to collect data by visiting the object of research, then observing things that have relevance to the problems discussed by researcher,

namely about the implementation of Android app in teaching the tenth graders' listening skill in narrative text at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in academic year 2019/2020.

2. Interview method

What is meant by the interview method is an oral question and answer between two or more people directly (Usman and Setiady, 2009: 55). The researcher used this method to obtain data of the implementation of Android app in teaching the tenth graders' listening skill in narrative text by English teacher at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in academic year 2019/2020. Besides the teacher, the researcher will also interview the tenth graders about their experience of studying listening skill in narrative text through Android app "English Listening Step by Step".

After all the necessary data is collected, then the data is then processed and presented using a method. Because this research does not use data in the form of numbers, the method used is descriptive analysis in the form of words or images, so it does not emphasize numbers (Sugiyono, 2011: 13).

In general, descriptive research is non-hypothesis research, so that in the research step it is not necessary to formulate a hypothesis. With descriptive analysis, researcher tries to explain in detail about research data in accordance with the data that was collected

DATA EXPLANATION AND THE RESEARCH FINDINGS

Data Explanation

1. The Implementation of Android app in Teaching the Tenth Graders' Listening Skill in

Narrative Text at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro

"English Listening Step by Step" is an android application that has a function to make it easier for its users to improve their listening skills. The application is also used by English teachers at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro for learning variation. The application of the Android app "English Listening Step by Step" in learning listening skills in narrative text according to English teacher of the tenth grade students at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro as a variation of student learning and learning media to train students to improve their listening skills.

The implementation scenario of the Android app "English Listening Step by Step" in teaching the tenth graders' listening skill in narrative text, can be explained in the description below.

- a. The teacher sends information through Whatsapp and Facebook groups about assignments using the android application that is done in groups and individually after the teacher has succeeded in providing a theoretical explanation about the material of narrative text.
- b. Students are asked to download the application "English Listening Step by Step" on Playstore (for those who do not have the application)
- c. To make it easier for students to use the "English Listening Step by Step" application, the teacher sends a video tutorial on how to use the application through the Whatsapp and Facebook groups
- d. With the help of the video tutorial, students are asked to

try out the features of the intended application to ensure students understand how to use the application

2. The Benefits of the Use of Android app in Teaching the Tenth Graders' Listening Skill in Narrative Text

In the learning process of listening to the skill of narrative text, android applications such as "English Listening Step by Step" are considered to be very helpful to both teachers and the tenth grade students at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro. Here are the benefits of using the application according to the experience felt directly by the teacher and students who have been researchers summarized through the results of the interview, as follows:

a. Benefits for English teachers

The benefits of using the android application "English Listening Step by Step" for English teachers are as follows:

- 1) Free application that can be used by anyone who needs to improve their English language skills, especially listening skills.
- 2) Practical applications that can be used by teachers to facilitate teachers in providing variations of questions and materials.
- 3) Application that has very complete content that makes it easy for teacher to deepen material for students.
- 4) Variety in learning that is interesting for students and can foster their learning motivation.
- 5) One of the android application that can be used as a learning tool with ease.

b. Benefits for students

The benefits of using the

android application "English Listening Step by Step" for students are as follows:

- 1) Learning English is easier because it's more flexible and can be done anywhere you don't have to be at school
- 2) Learning becomes more interesting and not boring
- 3) Learning can be done whenever we want
- 4) Can practice listening skills as well as the ability to comprehend reading texts.
- 5) The contents are quite complete
- 6) Easy and relaxed learning media

3. The advantages and disadvantages of the android application

In the learning process, of course, users, in this case are teachers and students, can feel firsthand the advantages and disadvantages of a medium that they use as learning facilities. Like the android application "English Listening Step by Step" which is a medium of variation in learning for tenth grade students and English teachers at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro, of course has advantages and disadvantages that can be felt by them during use. The advantages and disadvantages of the android application "English Listening Step by Step" based on the results of interviews from respondents are as follows:

a. Advantages

- 1) Easy and practical to use
- 2) The features are quite complete and easy to understand
- 3) A very complete reading text content that is supported by native speaker audio that can be downloaded and the sound

can be set at a speed level so that it is easy to listen.

b. Disadvantages

- 1) Questions on the reading text are still relatively few
- 2) Only audio without video
- 3) Most of the reading texts are relatively long

Discussion

The use of android applications in the world of education today is familiar because there are many teachers who use the android application to help them deliver a material not only in English but also other subjects, such as mathematics, geography, history, economics, and the other. English lessons have many skills that students must master, including reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. This makes English a complex subject to learn because to master the language, you must master the four skills.

Fortunately, these problems can be overcome with the help of android applications that are often found in PlayStore. Lots of developers create an application that is specific and suitable for its users. Developers will know whether the application that they created through the rating level based on the user's experience of the application that they created.

Something similar happened to one of the android applications that was created to help people learn English, especially listening skills. The application is "English Listening Step by Step". The application has a very high rating on the PlayStore, which is 4.8 out of 5. This indicates that the application is quite good based on the experience of its users. This experience was also felt by

English teachers and the tenth grade students at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro who had used the application during online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The application "English Listening Step by Step" is used to improve the students' listening skills in narrative text. The application was chosen by the English teacher because it has complete, simple and practical features. The application is used by the tenth grade students to practice their listening skills in learning narrative text material. They use the application twice.

Based on their experience using the android application, they have no difficulty in the application even though they are using it for the first time. During the use of the application, students can find out the correct pronunciation by native speakers' sounds and various vocabularies in the readings. In addition, they are trained in their reading comprehension skills by completing questions related to the reading. After using the application, the ability of students in listening skills can be said to have increased. This can be seen from the listening test results where they mostly get a pretty good score.

These results are in line with the results of research conducted by Sri Wiyana (2015) who examined the "Improving Listening Skills Using Podcasts for English Department Students of UPY". The results of the research showed that the dialogue and story from the podcast were able to help them in developing their skills in listening to the native speakers' sound by knowing the correct pronunciation, writing, and knowing various vocabularies.

The results experienced by the

tenth grade students at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro are inseparable from the function of the android application "English Listening Step by Step" which has many advantages. The advantages of the android application are based on the experience of users, namely English teachers and the tenth grade students are as follows:

1. The use is easy and practical
2. The features in the application are complete and easy to understand
3. All reading content is equipped with audio that can be downloaded for free where the sound from native speakers can be adjusted according to the ability of students listening.

However, behind the advantages possessed by the application, it turns out there are some disadvantages based on the experience of teachers and the tenth grade students as users, including:

1. The number of questions available on each reading is not many
2. English Listening Step by Step application "only provides audio only, not video that can make this application more interesting

Narrative readings available are relatively long so it requires time for students to understand the contents of the story to be able to answer the questions that are there.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this part, the writer would like to draw a conclusion based on the result of the study which has been discussed in the previous chapter. The implementation of the Android app in teaching the tenth graders' listening skills in narrative text at MA Al Munawar Kunci Bojonegoro in academic year 2019/2020 run well

and give many advantages for the students and the English teacher.

The teacher gave the students two kinds of assignments that used the application that would be done in groups and individually where the real purpose was to practice their listening skills before facing the listening test. During using this application, they have known about the correct pronunciation by native speakers' sounds they have downloaded before and various vocabularies in the readings. Besides, they have been trained in the comprehension ability at the reading by finishing any questions related to the reading text.

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