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THE USE OF MOBILE PHONE APPLICATIONS IN LEARNING SPEAKING FOR ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY AT THE MATARAM STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY

[1]Azahra Wani

[1]English Student, Faculty of Tarbiah and Teacher Training, The State of Islamic University Mataram. Indonesia

Corresponding Author Email: azahrawani@gmail.com

A B S T R A C T S

Today the mobile phone has become an integral part of so many individuals due to these apps, such that it could be said that it helps towards some sort of maintaining organized life. Speaking is the most important the skill of language which is about a tool or device in communication, by speaking, people can deliver their ideas, opinion, or thought about the world. Then, through speaking skills, people can communicate their ideas and messages with othersThis research was conducted to find out the use of mobile phones and speaking learning applications used by students and their factors. In this research, qualitative methods were used to collect data by means of observation, interviews and documentation. The results that researchers have found are that students often use mobile phone applications to learn to speak. In this research, cell phones really help students in learning to speak English because they are very easy to use anywhere and anytime, and there are also many factors that occur and result in students using learning applications found on cell phones because they are very affordable, easy to access and easy to use.

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INTRODUCTION

There are four language skills that every single human being should need to communicate with others. They are reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It is based on the goal of teaching English. To use English well, speaking is one of the important skills. English speaking becomes more and more important in international communication. According to Bygate, "Speaking skill is the ability in using oral language to explore ideas, intentions, thoughts, and feelings to other people as a way to make the message clearly delivered and well understood by the listeners". Most people who learn the English Language have in their minds that they like to master the goal of developing proficiency in speaking skills though it is a difficult task. Based on several studies have found students' problems that arise in learning to speak. First, Subandowo found that students had difficulty in distinguishing similar sounds, pronunciation, and words that did not exist in the Indonesian language. Leong & Ahmadi found that students were unable to communicate fluently and accurately due to the lack of knowledge about the topic being discussed. Savaşçı, found that students tend to be passive in speaking classes because of anxiety, fear of ridicule, and lack of confidence.

Based on the researcher's professional experience in teaching practice at UIN Mataram, some problems were found in speaking and it was when the students were asked to practice dialogue in front of the class. First, during practicing they were nervous to speak in

English, and they did not understand how to answer when they were given some questions from the teacher. Second, students could not perform the dialog fluently. They failed to grab the information about the topic, main idea, and other information of the text. Third, students often made grammatical mistakes during speaking. They were confused and did not know how to perform speaking grammatically correct. Lastly, they had difficulty in pronouncing the words. From the facts above, teachers should be able to find an innovative solution that can eliminate the students' obstacles dealing with their speaking problems. Since now people are standing on the edge of the technological revolution, the integration of technology in teaching EFL especially speaking skills might help engage the students in speaking the target language.

There are numerous researches on the issues of technology use in language teaching and learning such as Nushi & Eqbali found that Duolingo reassures learners that they can achieve their learning goals and relieves their fear of doing something so demanding as learning a language. Second, Baniabdelrahman examined the effect of using shared online oral diaries on the EFL Saudi First-year university students' speaking proficiency. This study confirms that the use of oral dairies with the first-year university students helped significantly to increase their participation and their motivation in English classes. Third, Francis found that appropriate the implementation of technology in education is necessary to ensure a successful 21st-century classroom and to set up students for success in their future careers. Besides, Parveen discussed some modern technologies available for teachers of English today to enhance speaking skills of a second or foreign language; Aratusa discussed that ELSA speaks software can improve English beginners' pronunciation. This study also represents a starting point for critical thinking in using technology in teaching pronunciation to English beginners. This early study is developed based on accent reduction software use theories that have evolved from the study of pronunciation teaching at university students and may, therefore, have limitations in its applicability to beginner students at Junior High School; Ppimah, Helmie, Susilawati explored the use of Orai Application as learning media to promote student's autonomous learning, in particular, to improve their English speaking fluency. From the current practices in teaching speaking skills above, this study aims to explore the application of Cake Application in speaking class, suggest students practice speaking more both in the classroom and beyond the classroom through the use of Cake application installed in their mobile phones. It is expected that Cake application hugely helps students to be better English speakers in a fun way

A mobile application also may be known as an app, web app, online app, iPhone app, or smartphone app. A mobile application, most normally alluded to as an application, is a kind of use programming intended to run on a cell phone, for example, a cell phone or tablet PC. Today the mobile phone has become an integral part of so many individuals due to these apps, such that it could be said that it helps towards some sort of maintaining organized life. Today there are apps for just about everything. It’s used correctly, apps can help to enrich the learning experience for ESL students of all ages and levels, in the classroom and at home. You can also find apps that are skill-focused. Some apps are designed to help with listening comprehension and speaking, for example, while others focus on grammar.

Technology has become an essential mean for human in many aspects; one of them is on teaching. Technology in language teaching has widespread use nowadays. Technology and pedagogy were never much mutual terrains, until today. Both have even been conjoined through the expanding and evolving learning tool establishment. Implementing technology in English as Foreign Language (EFL) classrooms can provide a meaningful and interesting approach for language learning. When we refer terms of technology to education, most people will think about computers and mobile devices—which later give birth to non-

computer and computer assisted language learning. In the 90s, language laboratories were commonly used by schools to accommodate students to be able to listen to native speakers as model to speak. In 2000s computer technology started to integrate in classroom. Presentations in the form of Power Point displayed with LCD projector are one of the examples that still exist until today. Other portable devices, such as mobile phone and tablets, appear as tools for teaching language. Thus, applications inside handheld devices have become platform for students and teachers to interact in language classroom.

However, the use of mobile devices in classrooms can either detract or reinforce in learning activities in language classrooms. This can be seen in numerous studies about teacher and student's perception on mobile devices in learning. There are certainly some factors which enable mobile phone to detract class activities. Mobile devices being anytime and anywhere are ignored because lesson materials were sent to the learners when they can freely have access to it. Moreover, student did not get the material unless the material sent by the teacher. In addition, smartphone is also still considered as luxury products, which not everybody can afford. There are various choices of mobile devices that commonly used by students or teacher for instance mobile phone or computer tablet. Somehow, how the teacher and students use those devices to aid learning activity is more important than choosing devices for learning. In other word, mobile devices are only a tool and the success of learning using it is depending on user of mobile devices itself.

As an international language, language English is widely used in various fields. Good English skills are not undoubtedly a competitive advantage both in education and work. Have skills in English can make it easier to find information wider, makes communication easier and interaction. In this case language knowledge English is very necessary important for modern society today because of domination English helps a person expand their relations internationally. In the current era of the Android operating system is something that is very important in instructional Media. Registration application and Android-based English learning This has many advantages make it easier for students to access material. So, students can easily understand it learning and memorizing activities. Several previous studies regarding Android-based registration and learning the first is research that creates applications interactive Android-based learning produces interactive learning and make it easier for students in the learning process.

Making an application is called application design Android with grammar training features and vocabulary to help users improve language skills English. Creating learning programs Android-based history got a score of 82 percent in its survey, which means it is suitable for the system education. Making learning applications Mandarin vocabulary for early ages from the results of the title received a survey average rating of 80 and succeeded in improving specialization in learning Mandarin at early age. Student registration application results The Android-based Ibnu Sirin Islamic Boarding School received The results were as expected, 85% of users were satisfied by making a registration application. In his research he created an application registration with the Medan city industrial service Android-based can make it easier to register without having to come to location. Vocational school student registration application Android-based is an information system Registration at Tarbiyah Vocational School becomes effective.

Speaking is oral communication where people can deliver information to each other in their conversation. Moreover, speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving, and processing information. Speaking is a skill that becomes an important part of daily life that it is the way for people to create social relationships as human beings. It can be concluded that speaking is the most important the skill of language which is about a tool or device in communication, by speaking, people can deliver their ideas,

opinion, or thought about the world. Then, through speaking skills, people can communicate their ideas and messages with others.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a qualitative approach. According to Ary et.al, "qualitative research focuses on understanding social phenomenon from the perspective of human participants in a natural setting". They state further that qualitative research focuses on getting "a holistic picture and depth of understanding rather than a numeric analysis of data" as the result of research. In other words, qualitative research employs images and words to answer questions rather than employs numbers and measurement such as frequencies, means, and statistical tests. In addition, Creswell stated that qualitative research was best used when the researcher did not know the exact variables to explore. The researcher chose a qualitative method because it could answer the research question in this study. This method is expected to be able to explore and investigate in depth. Furthermore, for a deep understanding of the problem, the researcher used an interview as an instrument to collect the data. In this study, interview is used by the writer as an instrument to collect the data from participants. So, in this research using qualitative descriptive case study research, the researcher describe the use of cell phones in teaching English speaking to students at Mataram State Islamic University.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This research shows that there are still some 5th semester students who do not use mobile phones as a speaking learning tool. On the other hand, if compared, more students use the speaking learning application via mobile phone. Based on the answers from respondents, it turns out that students in the 5th semester of English education at UIN Mataram predominatly choose the Duolingo application as a medium for learning speaking.

In this research, it was found that a number of students did not all use the speaking learning application on mobile phones, but only a few were found among the many students at Mataram State Islamic University. Even though many students use speaking learning applications on mobile phones, not all of them often use these applications and it was found that several students very often use speaking learning applications on mobile phones. There are more students who choose sometimes to use speaking learning applications.

It has been researched from a number of UIN Mataram students that students more often use the Duolingo application as a learning place to hone students' speaking skills. Because the Duolingo application is very fun and doesn't make you bored when studying because there are exciting features such as playing games but it makes your speaking skills better. Students can do assignments on the Duolingo application anywhere and at any time in a relaxed manner and don't have to be afraid to start the games on Duolingo with very good features.

It has been found from research results that the perceived effectiveness of students in learning speaking using mobile phones is quite effective, because not all students choose to be very effective, although there are some students who feel very effective, they cannot beat the number of other students who feel quite effective. The effectiveness of an application is felt by students varies because different understandings from others can make something less effective or not effective at all. It has been clearly shown in the results that have been researched above with evidence showing what students feel when learning speaking using a mobile phone with the applications contained in it.

This research showed that there are many factors that influence students to use applications available on mobile phones. Some 5th semester students have answered the factors that make them enthusiastic and motivated when using mobile phones as a tool for

learning speaking with the applications that are available and also with Having fast internet access makes it very easy for students to study at any time.

Students majoring in English at UIN Mataram are quite happy when they learn speaking very easily, although there are some students who sometimes rarely use the application, but they are also quite motivated when using mobile phones a nd the available learning applications.

The factors that influence students in using speaking learning applications are, Ease of Access, Availability of Learning Apps, Internet Connection, Motivation and Interest, Time Efficiency, and Learning Environment. Meanwhile, Walt Wolfarm in his research described the results of the mobile phone applications that students had used.This research identifies six factors that influence students' use of speaking learning when interacting with each other.

In this research, the factors that influence the use of mobile phone applications are Ease of Access, Availability of Learning Apps, Internet Connection, Motivation and Interest, Time Efficiency, Learning Environment. The first factor is Ease of Access, students in the 5th semester of English Language Education at UIN Mataram, said that having easy access makes things easy when they want to learn using mobile phone applications. We can see this from the situation around us that easy access makes it easy for us to learn. Apart from that, using the speaking learning application on a mobile phone provides various complete features for learning. By learning to speak English using the application you can become independent. Therefore, it is a good idea for all students to frequently use learning applications on their mobile phones.

The second factor is the Availability of Learning Apps, with the applications available on mobile phones making it easier for students to learn, making students happy because learning is not difficult with the applications that are available. Using a mobile phone application can create a more relaxed and enjoyable feeling when using a very exciting speaking learning application. especially if students quickly understand what has been taught in the learning applications found on mobile phones. By studying diligently using the speaking learning application, students will become increasingly good at speaking English.

The third factor is Internet Connection, in this research there are results from student interviews which say that having a good internet connection makes students learn by listening to English speaking audio or speaking learning videos which can make it easier for students to learn correct pronunciation. It feels more relaxed with conversations that have been prepared and then listened to and scrutinized repeatedly so that students remember them easily. Nowadays everything is very sophisticated because mobile phones are not only for voice communication but can also download applications for students' needs.

The fourth factor is Motivation and Interest. Students who have a high interest in improving their speaking skills are usually more motivated to use technology, including cell phones, as a learning tool. The current generation tends to rely more on technology when it comes to learning because it motivates students to study more enthusiastically with the many features available. Therefore, more and more students are studying privately using learning applications available on mobile phones. The influence caused by the media is very popular today. It can be concluded that this research is in accordance with what is happening around us.

The fifth factor is efficiency. Students often use cell phones to learn to speak because of time efficiency. They can use free time, such as when traveling or waiting, to practice speaking. Even though they are traveling far away, students can still study with the available time, even if only a little, because learning using applications does not have to be official, but can be done anywhere and at any time. The time students use for studying can be adjusted personally so that they are more relaxed when studying

The sixth factor is the learning environment, mobile phones provide a more relaxed and less stressful learning environment compared to a formal classroom environment. Students feel more comfortable and confident practicing speaking via their personal devices. Most students feel more comfortable when studying privately using their own devices, students feel more focused on studying when alone without any interference from other parties.

CONCLUSIONS

There are various students on mobile phone applications, such as being easy to access, being able to learn anywhere and anytime, making it easier for students to learn speaking. Factors that influence students in using speaking learning applications via mobile phone are easy to access, availability of learning apps, internet connection, motivation and interest,social support, time efficiency, learning environment. The findings from this research are that English department students majoring in English education do not all use speaking learning applications on mobile phone.

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