



Students' Views on the Utilization of the TikTok Application to Enhance Their Vocabulary

Imas Pratiwi, Syafrizal

Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa, Jalan Raya Palka No.Km.3, Sindangsari, Kec. Pabuaran, Kota Serang, Banten, Indonesia

ARTICLE INFORMATION

Received: March 11, 2024
Revised: May 12, 2024
Available online: June 30, 2024

KEYWORDS

TikTok Application; Vocabulary, Perceptions; Advantages; Disadvantages

CORRESPONDENCE

Name: Imas Pratiwi
E-mail: pratiwiimas06@gmail.com

A B S T R A C T

The objective of this study is to ascertain the students' perspectives regarding the utilization of the TikTok application for vocabulary acquisition. In particular, there are two research objectives: 1) To ascertain the students' perspectives regarding the utilization of the TikTok application for vocabulary acquisition; 2) To ascertain the benefits and drawbacks of utilizing the TikTok application to learn English. Descriptive qualitative methodology was implemented in this investigation. The students in class X at SMK Yuppentek 2 Tangerang participated in this study. This investigation implemented an open-ended questionnaire for data acquisition. Two conclusions are drawn from these results. Initially, students' perspectives regarding the utilization of the TikTok application for vocabulary acquisition. The research findings indicate that students have favorable attitudes toward the utilization of the TikTok application for vocabulary acquisition. Students concur that the TikTok application is a valuable tool for the acquisition of vocabulary, as it provides a more engaging learning experience and prevents them from becoming readily fatigued. In the process of studying vocabulary, students will acquire a wealth of knowledge regarding English vocabulary. The application provides subtitles beneath the original narrative, which facilitates comprehension and comprehension of the vocabulary. From a student's perspective, the TikTok application offers several benefits: it is visually appealing, it includes sounds that facilitate the recall of new vocabulary, and it includes subtitles that provide students with a clear understanding of the meaning of the vocabulary. This application is user-friendly, and the videos can be viewed at any time and in any location.

Introduction

Vocabulary is the important aspects of language, due to the students' lack of comprehension regarding the vocabulary, and then they did not know what the vocabulary that can use by them and then most of them sometimes feel difficult in translate the meaning of vocabulary to construct the sentences or the paragraph, not only that, students will have difficulty speaking English because of the lack of vocabulary they have. Speaking English will be easier if students know the vocabulary (Dictionary, 2016). If the students do not master it, automatically they also cannot understand the grammatical structure in language. Vocabulary is an important part in all languages where students or learners have to learn words continuously.

In this case, Technology for Information and Communication the Information and communication technology has a significant influence on individual existence in the present day. The most significant impact of the numerous technologies that have significantly impacted our lives in recent years and have transformed numerous aspects of our lives is information technology. In a very brief period of time, ICT has become one of the fundamental foundations of modern society, as stated by Daniels in (Srivastava, 2016). ICT will not only evolve in particular educational pursuits, but it will also become a backup plan in for the purpose of enhancing the educational process in a meaningful and effective manner. ICT is a foundational technology and other advanced computer software that are widely adopted to deliver the educational elements of various classes for pupils. It plays an essential role in the education sector. As we are aware, language is a communication tool that is crucial in social interactions. Additionally, language is a means of self-identification and the adaptation of tools to integrate with society as a means of social control. However, as the world evolves, individuals are no longer limited to employing their native tongue as a means of communication; they are also utilizing foreign languages, particularly English, which has become an international language.

In accordance with (Shaleha Isnaini, 2021), English has emerged as a global language of communication, facilitating the attainment of life goals for a multitude of individuals. In Indonesia curriculum, English has Four linguistic abilities: They are engaged in the following activities: reading, writing, speaking, and hearing. Moreover, there are language aspects that should be mastered by the students, it is consist of grammatical, fluency, structure, pronunciation and vocabulary. Students must learn two or three subject at once due to the demands of the new curriculum. They will struggle to understand the material due to a lack of vocabulary. With their new vocabulary, students should be able to understand the meaning and purpose of English phrases. Students are asked to produce concepts using new vocabularies. According to (Shaleha Isnaini, 2021), Increasing one's vocabulary is essential to learning English. One important component of learning a foreign language is this. As time went, many people started creating various applications for learning. There is one famous and currently hyped application that can be used for learning, Primarily, employing using the TikTok app. The TikTok app offers more than just entertainment and activities, but in this sophisticated era, the TikTok application can be used for learning English, there is a lot of story content contained in TikTok videos, through the TikTok application children can learn English anytime and anywhere, whatever they want. can repeat content about their learning materials if they forget or don't understand. (Agustina, 2019).

In order to enhance the four language skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing—vocabulary is required (Munawaroh, 2017). Grammar and vocabulary are essential components of communication; without them, little can be communicated. We are unable to communicate when we solely focus on grammar without acquiring vocabulary. An engaging and effective method of improving language skills is to utilize TikTok Video as a tool to expand one's vocabulary. Watching videos on TikTok is one method for students to improve their vocabulary mastery and acquire English. It is possible for TikTok videos to be trusted, which can aid in the expansion of students' vocabulary. Typically, students will find it simpler to acquire vocabulary when they are using TikTok videos, as they are more engaging, enjoyable, and enjoyable.

Social media learning is one method of acquiring English skills using technological devices. Individuals have the capacity to utilize it as an instrument or resource in order to comprehend and assimilate course-related materials, as well as to enhance their English proficiency (Nurjannah et al., 2021). It is readily accessible at all times and in all locations. Prior studies on social media use for English language learning. revealed that students hold favorable opinions regarding the utilization of social media for English language learning. Social media platforms offered an inexhaustible wealth of English-language material, allowing users to consistently hone their English proficiencies, particularly in the areas of vocabulary expansion, pronunciation improvement, and listening (Safitri, 2021). One of the most popular social media sites is the TikTok app (Ferstephanie & Pratiwi, 2021). TikTok is a popular app among young people that allows users to create short videos. Any video may be viewed and uploaded on TikTok. At the moment, TikTok functions as a resource for learning English as well as an entertainment site. There is a wide variety of videos on TikTok, including ones with English content, lip sync challenges, duet challenges, song lyrics, food, and health-related subjects. Numerous criteria, such as user interactions with the account, hashtag usage, following accounts, commonly seen video material, and more, influence the content that displays on a TikTok account. On TikTok, users have no control over the videos they watch. For instance, English-language videos that a TikTok user like and watches often will always be shown on their homepage.

Method

The descriptive qualitative approach was employed in this study. The qualitative descriptive research method is useful for describing qualitative information and at the same time for clearly describing the problem being studied. According to (Gay et al., 2012), a descriptive study is one that collects and describes data in order to Respond to inquiries on the subject's current state that is being studied. This study applied descriptive research because it gives researchers the ability to build and describe a detail Regarding the way that students see the usage of TikTok in narrative text focusing on English vocabulary mastery. The sample of this research were 15 students of SMK Yuppentek 2 Tangerang in the tenth grade to answer an open-ended questionnaire about each students' opinions on the use of TikTok video application to increase student vocabulary.

The instrument of this study is a Questionnaire. According to Saunders & Tait (2018), open-ended survey in which questions are posed and detailed responses based on respondents' experiences are requested. The researcher has conducted 6 questions in an open-ended questionnaire about students' perception on the use TikTok application to increase student vocabulary. In this research, the researcher used Bahasa Indonesia to avoid misinterpretation. The open-ended Questionnaire was distributed to tenth grade students of SMK Yuppentek 2 Tangerang. The questionnaire has two-point discussion aspects such as, the students' perceptions on the use of TikTok application to increase student vocabulary and the advantage and disadvantages to learning English using TikTok application. Referring to the research instrument, the researcher used a questionnaire and a variety of open-ended questionnaires as a guide for conducting research. This means in every question; the students can answer according to their own perception. Using the instruments helps researchers find out the validation and reliability of research data. According to Given (2008) on (Nassaji, 2015), after collecting data from questionnaires, the data needs to be analyzed, and there are three steps to analyze the data such as, pre-coding, coding, and summarizing.

Finding and Discussion

This chapter specifies the research findings and discussions in order to elucidate the research's outcome. The analysis of the data collected from the questioner is presented in this chapter. It is relevant to the research questions posed in the first chapter of this study, which are as follows: What are students' perceptions regarding the use of the TikTok application to enhance their vocabulary, and what are the benefits and drawbacks of learning English using the TikTok application.

Findings

Question:

1. Does your teacher use learning media in teaching English?

From the data collection it can be concluded that all children answered that their teachers use learning media in the form of applications that can be used for learning English. And the applications that are often used in learning are TikTok and YouTube. Apart from the TikTok and YouTube applications, 4 children answered the Grammarly application as one of the media they had used when learning English.

2. In your opinion, what applications or social media can be used in learning English?

It can be concluded that almost all children answered that the application that can be used to learn English is TikTok, because they think the TikTok application is quite easy to use, they only need to write the keywords they want in the column. search section, after that it will appear what they want, they are looking for. Apart from the TikTok application, several children answered that they usually use YouTube too, and 3 children answered that the applications they use are Grammarly and Duolingo.

It can be concluded that the majority of students are very interested in learning to use TikTok, because it is more economical, and TikTok is an application that is currently popular, TikTok is an application that can be used as a medium for entertainment and learning. Today's children prefer something contemporary, we as teachers must not be left behind to make learning more enjoyable.

3. Do you have the TikTok application? How often do you use the application?

From the data obtained, it can be concluded that almost all students have the TikTok application on their cellphones and often use the application. Apart from that, there are 2 children who have TikTok on their cellphones but they rarely use the application. And there was 1 child who answered that he didn't have the TikTok application on his cellphone. If it is concluded that the majority of students, almost 99% of them have the TikTok application and often open it.

4. Have you ever used TikTok as a medium for the acquisition of English?

From the data obtained, it can be concluded that 11 children answered that they had and often used the TikTok application to learn English. And there were 3 children who answered that they rarely used TikTok to learn English, they used YouTube more often. Apart from that, there was 1 child who answered that he had never used TikTok or other applications to learn English.

5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using TikTok as learning media?

Based on the questionnaire's results, students answered that the advantages of the TikTok application are that it is easy to access, can be viewed repeatedly, is interesting and does not make you bored. Meanwhile, the disadvantage is that it takes up too much internet quota.

6. Does learning English using the TikTok application really help your vocabulary knowledge? If yes, state the reason!?

From this data We might thus assume that the TikTok app answering students can help them improve their understanding of English, especially in Vocabulary. According to them, the TikTok application can increase vocabulary because the moment they start the TikTok app and search for the material they want to study, various kinds of story texts will appear, besides that the TikTok application has subtitles so they can easily know the meaning of the vocabulary. And the TikTok application has attractive fonts, starting from attractive fonts in videos, increasing students' interest in reading.

Discussion

In this section, the researcher will analyze the data in the finding section to answer 2 research questions, there are students' perceptions on the use of TikTok application to increase student vocabulary and the advantages and disadvantages in learning English using movie clips at Cake application.

1. Students' Perceptions on The Use of TikTok Application to Increase Student Vocabulary.

The researcher adopts Walgito's (2010) theory to examine student perceptions, which argues that the development of an individual's perception is determined by their attitude. Essentially, attitude refers to the interconnectedness of multiple components, three of which are:

The first component is the cognitive factor, namely related to knowledge, perspectives, and beliefs. It pertains to how individuals perceive attitude objects. According to the finding, researchers discovered that all students perceive reading narrative text on TikTok application is beneficial for improving their English vocabulary. However, their motivations varied. Students perceive that narrative text on TikTok application is effective in developing their vocabulary. This is because the application shows narrative text in two languages, and provides a wide range of story options. By reading more stories, students can acquire a more vocabulary. Additionally, the application allows students to encounter unfamiliar word. This enables them to easily access the meanings of such foreign words, especially if they have the habit of taking notes whenever they have new or unfamiliar vocabulary.

The second criterion contains a cognitive component (Opinion). Students feel the benefits of using the Using the TikTok app to learn vocabulary. This application makes it easier for them to learn English, especially vocabulary. In TikTok videos there are subtitles in the video so that it will make it simpler for the pupils to comprehend and discover something new vocabulary. An attractive appearance also makes students more interested in learning English.

The third criterion is conative (behavioral). Based on the findings, students felt that using the TikTok application helped them learn new vocabulary that they did not know before, because the vocabulary they knew could be used in everyday English. We become familiar with their everyday language and get them actively involved in practicing pronouncing new vocabulary. Thus, they get a better learning experience in the vocabulary aspect.

In addition, most students agree that using the TikTok App gives them a better learning experience because they have the perception that the app makes them enthusiastic about learning, makes it easier to understand, has easy access to learning, the material adapts to our English level and improves their abilities English vocabulary skills.

2. The Advantages and Disadvantages to Learning English TikTok Application.

In this section we discuss the advantages and disadvantages of learning English using the TikTok application. Based on the questionnaire, researchers analyzed that the majority of students answered that the advantages of the TikTok application were that the application could be used (accessed) anytime,

anywhere, it could be rewatched if there was material they didn't understand, the appearance was attractive, there were subtitles in the video making it simpler for pupils to comprehend the vocabulary. The text that appears in the video. The disadvantages of this application is that respondents think this application takes up quite a lot of internet quota, because this application cannot be used offline, you have to go online using internet data or WIFI, not only that, there are also respondents who answered that the disadvantage of this application is that it videos that are not educational, such as unclear trend.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusion

The conclusion outlines two principles that are supported by the findings and discussions. The initial point pertains to students' perspectives regarding the utilization of the TikTok application to enhance their vocabulary. The second point pertains to the advantages and disadvantages of learning English through the TikTok application.

Respondents in this study gave positive perceptions of the use of the TikTok application in narrative texts that focus on mastering understanding. The respondents' positive assessment came from their experience of mastering the language by reading narrative text using the TikTok application. This is evidenced by the students' survey answers, their positive responses show that they enjoy reading narrative texts using the TikTok application and can also improve their mastery of understanding.

Apart from that, this investigation also identified the advantages and negative aspects of the TikTok app of the TikTok app were also found in this research. It is evident from the student questionnaire that the TikTok application offers a variety of benefits and drawbacks. The advantages of using TikTok are that there are lots of narrative stories with an attractive appearance, clear reading fonts, there are subtitles (translations) on the videos, not only that, another benefit that is felt is that students can repeat TikTok videos anytime and anywhere if they don't understand or forget. So, the TikTok application is quite easy for students to access, then students can download videos without taking a long time, and finally, through the TikTok application students can know how to pronounce the vocabulary in the video correctly.

Recommendation

Learning to use TikTok can help improve children's vocabulary and can also train children on how to pronounce English well. However, there are also drawbacks to using the TikTok application, but they are quite small, such as students needing a lot of quota when accessing the TikTok application, and sometimes on the TikTok application there are videos that are less educational and TikTok trends are not clear. So, this TikTok application can be used for learning and entertainment, depending on what we want to use it for, as teachers we must be able to stay up to date with new advances in order to increase students' enthusiasm for learning.

References

- Agustina, N. H. (2019). Using English Video Songs To Improve The Students' Vocabulary Mastery At Mts Manbail Futuh Tuban. *Tuban: Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel Surabaya Surabaya*.
- Dictionary, O. (2016). Definition of Perception in English. *Oxford University Press*. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/perception> (Accessed on November, 26th 20223)
- Ferstephanie, J., & Pratiwi, T. L. (2021). TikTok Effect to Develop Students' Motivation in Speaking Ability. *English Journal for Teaching and Learning*, 9(2), 163-178. <http://jurnal.iainpadangsidempuan.ac.id/index.php/EEJ>
- Gay, L. R., Mills, G. E., & Airasian, P. W. (2012). Educational research: Competencies for analysis and applications (10th ed). *Pearson*.
- Munawaroh, R. R. (2017). Improving Students Vocabulary Through Match Method.
- Nassaji, H. (2015). Qualitative and descriptive research: Data type versus data analysis. *Language Teaching Research*, 19(2), 129-132.
- Nurjannah, L., Afrianti, M., Nazly, R., Safitri, Y., & Taufik Ihsan, M. (2021). *No Titl*.
- Safitri, M. (2021). Students' Perception Of The Use Of Social Media For Learning.
- Shaleha Isnaini, D. A. (2021). Do You Like Listening To Music?: Students' Thought On Their Vocabulary

Mastery Using English Song. *Journal Of English Language Teaching And Learning (Jeltl)*.

Srivastava, S. (2016). ICT Implementation for Education and Learning. <http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jrme/papers/Vol-6 Issue-4/Version- 4/G0604044044.pdf> (Accessed on November, 8th 2023)