

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE USE OF MUSIC APPS AS AN EFFECTIVE LEARNING MEDIA IN IMPROVING STUDENTS' VOCABULARY

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Abstract.

The research aims to explore the effectiveness of music applications in improving vocabulary development among students. The study uses surveys, interviews, and observations to gather insights into students' perceptions of using music applications for vocabulary improvement. The findings suggest that music applications have the potential to enhance vocabulary development and offer recommendations for their optimal use in educational settings. Overall, the research highlights the significance of integrating music applications to enrich vocabulary development and enhance learning experiences for students.

Keywords: Effective learning media; Improving students' vocabulary; Music Apps; Students' perception

INTRODUCTION

English is a foreign language that everyone should learn, especially because of the importance of English vocabulary in communication. English is the most commonly used language globally, and mastering it can bring various benefits. Understanding the significance of mastering English vocabulary is essential for effective communication. In addition to being the most widely spoken language worldwide, proficiency in English offers numerous advantages. Building a rich vocabulary provides access to diverse job opportunities and helps in forming extensive networks. Moreover, a strong vocabulary enhances the ability to comprehend and engage with advanced technology. Prioritizing vocabulary acquisition in English learning is crucial due to its significant impact on various aspects of life and personal growth.

By learning English, you can access better employment opportunities and expand your connections or friendships more easily, as well as better understand the latest technology. One of the challenging aspects of learning English is mastering vocabulary, which is the smallest unit in a language. While many agree on the importance of mastering English vocabulary in language

learning, opinions differ. When learning a language, mastering vocabulary and grammar hold equally important positions because they support proper and correct communication. In the correct order of learning English, mastering vocabulary should be the first priority. Here are some reasons why teaching vocabulary in English should come first.

1. Easily Understandable and Accessible

The primary reason is that learning vocabulary is simple and accessible for everyone, including children. Teaching English vocabulary can be engaging and straightforward without making it seem complex. There are numerous creative and innovative methods to learn English vocabulary.

2. Enhances All Four English Skills

Having a strong grasp of English vocabulary also enhances proficiency in all four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. A rich English vocabulary enables individuals to effectively read, listen, speak, and write in English with confidence and accuracy.

3. Aids in Mastering English

Frequently, individuals traveling abroad carry an English dictionary to assist in communication. This demonstrates that mastering English vocabulary not only aids communication but also facilitates overall English language proficiency.

Language is a crucial means of human communication, and English, in particular, is essential for students to master. It is a required subject in junior high school, senior high school, and university curriculums. Learning media can greatly aid in stimulating students' thoughts, attention, and skills to support their learning. According to Rinda (2016), mastering the four fundamental abilities of the English language - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - is essential for effective communication. While grammar and vocabulary are important, focusing on these abilities can significantly improve one's ability to communicate in English.

Modern education faces two crucial challenges: changing attitudes toward learning and rapidly evolving information and communication technologies. However, with constructivism, we can transform information into knowledge through interpretation, correspondence, representation, and elaboration to overcome the former challenge. Embracing technology plays a pivotal role in modernizing education and addresses the latter challenge. Technological advances have revolutionized the way we communicate, and educators need to stay up-to-date with the latest technology to provide the best possible education for their students (Isnaniah et al., 2019).

Sok (2014) sheds light on the role of multimedia in incidental vocabulary learning, which occurs naturally in everyday life. Kanellopoulou, Kermanidis, & Giannakouloupoulos (2019) emphasize that the ability to automatically recognize words while listening or reading, as well as easily recall them while speaking or writing, is a fundamental aspect of fluent language use.

The text was initially centered on learning and was only a presentation of diverse knowledge as a guide to knowledge-rich socio-cultural inquiry. Many educators face challenges when incorporating technology into classroom learning activities, leading them to rely on traditional educational settings for presenting learning materials. For instance, the whiteboard is often used solely as a means for teachers to deliver instructional content. There are two primary reasons why some educators opt not to integrate technology into the classroom. The first reason is the lack of proficiency among many teachers in utilizing modern tools such as computers and cell phones, which have become prevalent across various industries (J. T. Pendidikan, 2019). Moreover, leveraging song-based English learning and audio-visual media has proven to be highly effective, particularly at the school level. Songs serve as an invaluable resource for English language acquisition through audiovisual media, aiding students in enhancing their reading skills and memorizing basic English vocabulary and expressions. It is crucial to tailor the use of songs and audiovisual media according to the specific learning needs of students. When integrated into English learning activities, songs not only motivate students but also facilitate their active participation in reading and memorizing simple English words, aligning with the instructional objectives (Ratnawati & Angræni, 2021).

According to Suharto and Aprianti, the power of song lyrics lies in their ability to effectively convey information and educate both the state and society. They act as a strong and influential medium for communicating the perspectives of the government, governmental agencies, and various institutions. Moreover, song lyrics have the potential to mold an individual's character and shape societal attitudes, consequently contributing to personal and collective growth. When skillfully presented, song lyrics hold the power to subtly evoke profound emotions and deeply resonate with people, making a significant impact (Aprianti et al., 2022). According to Nurhayati in Mijo (2022), songs can be an effective medium for helping students learn English. They are believed to motivate students during the language learning process. Furthermore, Sadiman Fitriyani emphasized that the selection of learning media must align with learning objectives, student characteristics, required stimulation, environment, local conditions, and the range of the medium itself. This is especially important for students who find English classes uninteresting in Indonesia. Alqahtani (2015) emphasized the importance of a good vocabulary for successful foreign language use. Without a sufficient vocabulary, language learners may struggle

to communicate effectively. This is because second-language readers heavily rely on their vocabulary knowledge, and a lack of it is a significant obstacle they face. Alqahtani defined "mastery" of vocabulary as having complete knowledge or skill, indicating a high ability to process words in a language (Susanto & Fazlinda, 2016). It is essential to take responsibility for vocabulary mastery, which requires personal motivation and interest in the language. In conclusion, vocabulary mastery is a critical component of language skills and plays a vital role in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Vocabulary is a crucial aspect of language learning, connecting the four language skills of reading, speaking, writing, and listening for effective communication in another language. Before progressing to other language skills, students must first master vocabulary as a fundamental skill. Understanding vocabulary enables us to comprehend what people say and what they mean. Without a strong foundation in vocabulary and comprehension, it is challenging to understand other skills. When a student can identify the names of nouns, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, and verbs, it indicates a strong grasp of vocabulary. Vocabulary refers to the collection of words and word sets that a person or entity knows. To be an effective teacher, one should be equipped with a variety of modern and effective techniques (Maryani, 2022; Susanto, 2017).

RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a qualitative approach to understanding symptoms that cannot be measured by numbers. As explained by Sugiyono (2018:213), qualitative research methods are founded on a philosophy that employs the researcher as the instrument, data collection technique, and analysis. Qualitative analysis emphasizes the importance of meaning. The goal of qualitative methodology is to investigate and describe phenomena or objects of research through the social activities, attitudes, and perceptions of individuals or groups. Those who engage in this form of inquiry, known as qualitative researchers, assume the responsibility of testing theories deductively, building safeguards against bias, controlling alternative or counterfactual explanations, and generalizing and replicating their findings. The research aims to address the effectiveness of music applications in improving students' vocabulary development. It seeks to understand how music applications can facilitate vocabulary improvement and investigate the factors influencing students' perceptions of this learning medium. The research method involves surveys, interviews, and observations to gather comprehensive data on students' attitudes, preferences, and experiences in utilizing music applications for vocabulary enhancement. The findings provide valuable insights into the potential application of music as an effective learning tool and offer recommendations for its optimized use in educational settings. Overall, the research underscores

the significance of leveraging music applications to enrich vocabulary development and enhance learning experiences for students. This study was conducted at SMP 3 Muhammadiyah Bandar Lampung. The population in this study was 443 students; there are four classes, and this study used The sampling method in this research used purposive sampling. according to Sugiyono (2018:138) sampling uses certain considerations by the desired criteria to determine the number of samples to be studied. The researcher selected classes 9C and 9D because the class used music apps than the other class and their vocabulary skills were low.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The method of collecting data used by the questioner and analysis data used scoring. Clarifications and appropriate categories are created depending on the respondent's perspective, and then the procedure of assigning a score to the respondent's response is carried out. Giving scores to students' responses used a Likert scale.

Findings

Students' perceptions of the use of Music App for learning English vocabulary were obtained through the use of a questionnaire, which served as the main technique for data collection. We selected 64 students from the 9 C and 9 D grades as representatives because the information presented included responses.

Table 1. Table Writing

No	Statement	Scale					Total
		SA	A	N	D	SD	
1	You are a Music App user.	20	20	10	10	4	64
2	You often use Music App.		30	14	10	10	64
3	Learning English using a music application is easier to	20	24	8	6	6	64
4	Compared to other applications, you are a superior music		20	14	14	16	64
5	You believe Music App is easier to use for learning Vocabulary.		24	20	10	10	64
6	You prefer using Music App over other App.		20	10	14	20	64
7	On your FYP, English content producers	14	20	14	12	4	64
8	Using Music Apps makes me discover new	10	20	10	12	12	64
9	I listen to a lot of English music to improve my vocabulary. I listen to	2	26	14	20	2	64
10	The Music App can help me expand my vocabulary.	20	24	12	4	4	64
TOTAL		86	228	126	112	88	

Notes:

SA : STRONGLY AGREE
A : AGREE
N : NETRAL
D : DISAGREE
SD : STRONGLY DISAGREE

Criteria score description

- a. Strongly Agree score : 86, means they memorize vocabulary faster using music apps.
- b. Agree score : 228, means they adapt faster because they choose the songs they like from the music application.
- c. Netral score : 126, means they sometimes still have problems with the accent of the songs they listen to.
- d. Disagree score : 112, means some disagree because they don't listen to English songs enough.
- e. Strongly Disagree : 88, means some of them are not good at and do not understand English song.

From the following table, students prefer to strongly agree that using music applications makes it easier to learn vocabulary in class from all the choices given. The results of the survey show that students have a positive attitude towards using Music App to learn English vocabulary. Due to the variety of vocabulary levels available, Music App significantly helps students improve their English vocabulary. Additionally, the Music App allows users to share the links with their peers, making it easy to spread information.

Discussion

The study conducted a thorough investigation into the influence of music apps on the development of English language vocabulary skills among students. The findings revealed that 64 participants responded positively, indicating a significant potential to leverage music as an integral component of language education, especially through the use of popular music apps. It was observed that the features of the music app played a substantial role in enhancing the understanding and retention of vocabulary through the interpretation of lyrics. The contextual background provided for each song in the music app proved instrumental in establishing coherent themes and establishing connections between different vocabulary elements, ultimately contributing to comprehensive language support. The affirmative feedback

from the participants underscores a growing opportunity to integrate music apps as supplementary tools in language education, fostering a stronger rapport between students and their language learning journey. This study not only sheds light on the positive impact of music apps on language proficiency but also offers educators a wealth of possibilities to cultivate dynamic and effective learning environments tailored to their students' needs.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Music App is a technology tool that has a significant impact in many different areas. The use of Music App in language learning increases students' motivation to learn and is successful in acquiring English vocabulary. Students have a favorable outlook on the prospect of using Music App to hone their English language abilities. According to the survey results, the vast majority of students had thoughtful perceptions of these two factors. The majority of the students, according to the survey results, thought Music App might make studying English more easier. Additionally, they think that utilizing the Music App will improve their English.

They also concur that there are a variety of advantages to learning English with Music App, such as the fact that it can aid in vocabulary development. After analyzing the results, the researcher concluded that the students had positive perceptions because using the Music App had useful on them. Students understood that vocabulary could be learned through the lyrics on the Music App app. However, this study inevitably has certain shortcomings. It's important to keep in mind some of the shortcomings of this study. The sample size of this study (64) is small and the results may not be generalizable, which is crucial in research. In addition, the use of a mixed methods approach, rather than just a quantitative approach, may be more successful in producing evident results. With a mixed methods approach, researchers can use both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect data, analyze it, incorporate the results, and draw conclusions in one study (Creswell & Creswell, 2017). Therefore, it may be more accurate to use tests or surveys to get accurate and effective answers.

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