Digital Technology used By English Students In Learning English Skills

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ABSTRACT

Digital technology that is used to improve students' English learning skills currently has the aim of developing an English application, such as YouTube, learning application, social media, web, and etc. The students can access from handphone or laptop/computer everywhere, so that they can easier to learning English. It is also can improve the students motivation to learn, because with digital technology the students feel enjoy and not bored to improve their English skills. The objective of this research was to find out digital learning technology used by English students in learning English skills. The method used in this research was descriptive qualitative method. The instrument of this research was questionnaire about digital technology in learning English skills. It found that in Speaking skill the students used digital technologies: Social Media (Instagram, Tiktok and Facebook),Youtube, movie,music and Google Translate. In Listening the students used digital technologies: Youtube, Music, Movie. In Reading Skill the students used digital technologies: Social Media (Instagram, TikTOk Facebook), Video and Google Translate. In Writing skill the students used digital technologies: Google translate and Social Media. The dominant digital technology useb by students is Social Media. It is suggested for Englsih students to use more digital technology to improve their English Skills.

Key words: Four Skills, Digital Technology in English Skills

INTRODUCTION

In learning English, the students will learn about four skill, they are: speaking, reading, writing and listening. English students studying in college, they must also master English because a person will be said to have good skills in English if he can use the language fluent. Learning English is very important because we are more confident when talking to others from various countries and it can also be understood that E-Learning emphasizes the use of internet technology to send a series of solutions that can improve knowledge and skills as well as knowledge acquisition that occurs anytime, anywhere, and in any condition as a form of education carried out through internet media. So learning English and getting good English language skills is not as easy as people think because it requires hard work and seriousness from students in following the English teaching and learning process. To master the skills the students must be

study hard in the school, university and by themselve. Many ways to learn English, one of them is use digital technology.

The era of digital technology can help English Students in learning process, such as: they can find many references in internet easily; pronunciation will be improved by using pronunciation test apps, they can check grammatical using Grammarly or other grammar apps. Afterthat, the students can have many friends from the other country when using social media, so that they can practice English skill (speaking, listening, reading and writing). Students can watch videos, listen to music, or communicate directly with native speakers via social media or communication platforms. This increases their understanding of the accents, expressions and culture involved in everyday language use. Students can study anytime and anywhere. This is perfect for student athletes who have a busy training schedule. With digital devices, they can learn English in their free time. With digital technology, students can access many learning resources, such as videos, articles, podcasts, and interactive applications that help them understand English from various angles. These resources can also be updated according to the latest developments in the language. Digital learning that is used to improve students' English learning skills currently has the aim of developing an English application, such as YouTube, learning application, social media, web, and etc. The students can access from handphone or laptop/computer everywhere, so that they can easier to learning English. It is also can improve the students motivation to learn, because with digital technology the students feel enjoy and not bored to improve their English skills.

Based on the preliminary study when the researcher interview some students about digital technology used to improve their English skill, it found that the students often used Youtube and social media to practice English. So, the researcher want to know more detail about digital technology used by students.

The are some previous studies of the research, they are: First, (Lam Kieu *et al.*, 2021) the title is "The Effectiveness of Using Technology in Learning English". It found that using technology in learning English, we examined the impacts of the teaching on the four skills, and this effect is expressed as a percentage (30%,50%, 80%) based on the results obtained from the questionnaires. Second, (Kim and Bae, 2020) the title is " A Study Into Students' Use of Digital English Learning Strategies In Tertiary Education". It found that first, the most frequently used strategy category was compensation strategies, and this was followed by memory and metacognitive strategies. Second, learner factors included in this study showed statistically significant relationships with the use of DELS, but the duration of using digital devices was not related to DELS usage. Third, (Octaberlina, 2023) Exploring the Use of Digital Technology in English Language Teaching: Strategies and Methods for Effective Implementation. It found that he results of this study are (1). Technology supporting education is expected to assist students and educators in carrying out teaching and learning activities in schools; (2). At this time, many English learning methods have been integrated with digital technology. Such as utilizing digital technology using the direct method

and others; (3). The use of digital technology is also used in developing students' English skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), for example, the use of YouTube videos, digital posters, digital comics, and Grammarly tools.

Based on the previous above, the researcher interest to know about digital technology used by students in learning English especially about four skills. So, the tittle of this research is *"**Digital Technology Used By English Students In Learning English Skills"**.*

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research used qualitative research as the research design. (Lune and Berg, 2017) said that qualitative research is research on collecting non – numeric primary data such as word and pictures that function as their own instruments making qualitative research suitable for providing factual and descritptive information. The subjects of the research were students who frequently use digital technology in learning English Skills at second, fourth, sixth, and eighth semester of English Education Program of Muhammadiyah Bengkulu in academic year 2023-2024 who used some digital technology in learning English Skills. The researcher collected the subject, after the students filled out the survey about digital technology.

The instrument of this research was questionnaire about digital technologies in learning English Skill (Speaking, Reading, Writing and Listening). The questionnaire was open – ended question. The data collected by using some steps they were: First, the researcher made list the students name in each semester. Second, met the students who as subject of the research. Third, distributed the questionnaire to students. The last, answer of questionnaire got the students who used technology digital in learning four skills**.** The data analyzed by some steps they were: The researcher made group the students' answers in the questionnaire, described the result of the data and made conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDING

In this part will present the finding of this research about digital technologies used by students in learning English Skills they were: speaking, reading, writing and listening. There were 17 English students who are as subject of this research from second, fourth, sixth and eighth semester. The explanation of the finding can be seen on below:

Table 1 Digital Technology used by Students in Second Semester

No	Digital Technology	Skills			
		Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing
1	Instagram	3	-	3	-
2	TIKTOK	3	-	3	-
3	YouTube	3	3		
4	Google Translate				2

Table 2 Digital Technology used by Students in Fourth Semester

No	Digital Technology	Skills			
		Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing
1	Instagram	-	-	3	3
2	TIKTOK	1	-	4	-
3	YouTube	5	4		
4	Google Translate				
5	Music	5	5		

Table 3 Digital Technology used by Students in Sixth Semester

No	Digital Technology	Skills			
		Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing
1	Instagram	1	-	3	
2	TIKTOK	-	-	4	-
3	YouTube	1	4		
4	Google Translate	1			5
5	Music	-	5		
6	Video	1		3	

Table 4 Digital Technology used by Students in Eight Semester

No	Digital Technology	Skills			
		Speaking	Listening	Reading	Writing
1	Instagram	-	-	-	-
2	TIKTOK	-	-	-	-
3	Facebook	1	1	1	1
4	Google Translate	3		4	4
5	Movie	4	4		

It found that digital technology can improve their English skill, they are: YouTube, the students said they can watching Education Channel, Movie, Podcast, sing English song and etc to improve four skill. Social Media (Instagram, Facebook, TikTok), almost every time the students use their handphone and often open their social media. So, they can learn four skill from it, such as read mention or story, write story, comment or chatting with native speaker, sing English song, watching video, and etc. Afterthat, the students often use Google Translate to check vocabulary, pronunciation and sentence use voice features. The students perception, digital technology give advantages for them in learning English Skill because they not only focus learn but they can feel enjoy with scrolling in social media while studying English, watching popular movie, sing English song and etc.

DISCUSSION

In this part, the researcher will discuss the result of the research. The research question is "What are digital technology used by students in learning English Skill". There are four English language skills they are speaking, reading, listening and writing. Technology is the idea of things that are created or human made. Technology is represents the

combination of human understanding of natural laws and phenomena human understanding of natural since ancient to make things that fulfill our needs and desires or that performs certain function, and that it has to create things that benefit human being (Sari, Martina and Utami, 2022).

So, in this research it found that the students used by students to learning English Skill (speaking, reading, writing and listening) where the students used digital technology to improve their English skill. They are: First, in second semester, it found that only three students used digital technology to learning English Skill. Digital technologies dominant used by students is Social Media (Instagram and TikTok) to improve their speaking and reading skill. Where the students follow the English Education Influencer at social media and often imitate the speakers' way of speaking and read their status or comment in their social media. It also found the students used YouTube application to practice their speaking and listening skill. Where the students sing English song, watching podcast, watching how to learn English Channel and listen English song. After that, they used Google Translate to support them to writing English. (Octaberlina, 2023) mentioned the use of digital technology is also used in developing students' English skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), for example, the use of YouTube videos, digital posters, digital comics, and Grammarly tools. According to (Atmowardoyo, Weda and Sakkir, 2020) to improving your speaking skills, you did the same thing when practicing listening skills. There is no specific website that you use. You only practice speaking through videos on YouTube, content on Social Media and western films, and have direct conversations with native speakers.

Second, in fourth semester there were four students who used digital technology as media to learning English four skill. It found that the students used Music, YouTube and only one students use TikTok for practice their speaking skill. Then, the students use music and four students use YouTube to practice their listening skill. After that, three students used Instagram and four students used Tiktok to practice their reading skill. The last only 3 students used Instagram as technology digital to practice their writing skill. The students' activity almost similar with the second semester students.

Third, in sixth semester there were five students who used digital technology to support them to learning English four skills. It found that only one student who used digital technology such as Instagram, YouTube, Google translate and video to learning Speaking Skill. The student watch English Education Channel to imitate the speaker pronounces and it also can add their vocabulary. They also use Google translate voice feature to check how to pronounce the word or sentence. After that, in listening skill the students used music and YouTube where they can listen music and sing English favorite song. Then, it found that 3 students used Instagram, 4 used TikTok and 3 used Video to practice their reading skill. Where the students read the content creator status, read comment in their social media, and read tips or trick about English in social media or video. The last, it found that 5 students used music to practice their writing skill where the students write the lyric of English song when they listen or sing a song. The last, it found that four students in eight semesters who used digital technology to support them to learning English skill. The students used

Facebook, movie and Google Translate to help them to learning English. It also found the students did not use variety technology digital to improve the English skill where they choose only one digital technology. It is contrast with (Sari, Martina and Utami, 2022) she found show 73.13% of students agreed that the use of technology in English language learning provided convenience and advantageous. Experiences and discoveries during the use of technology in learning activity also play a role in influencing students' perception of technology.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

Based on the previous chapter about, it can be concluded digital technologies used by students in learning English, they are:

1. Speaking Skill

    There are some digital technologies used by students to improve their speaking skill, they are: Social Media (Instagram, Tiktok and Facebook) where the students follow some account that give information, practice, tips and trick how to speaking English, such as: @reallife.english @englishcoachchad @withLUCY @englishwithadriana. The students can follow the tips and trick or imitate what the speaker mention. YouTube where the students watch podcast, movie, sing English song and watch learning English channel such as: @speakEnglishwithTiffany @speakwithVanessa and @RachelsEnglish etc. They can imitate short pronunciation and conversation tips. Listen to short video, pause, and repeat what the content creator says to copy their intonation and pronunciation. Google Translate where the students used voice feature to check correct pronunciation of word or sentence.

2. Listening Skill

    There are some digital technologies used by students to improve their listening skill, they are: Youtube, Music, Movie where the students can sing English Song in Youtube such as Taylor Swift, Katty Perry and the other famous singer in @Mind Nook channel. The students can watch movie and listen the actor tell and practice or write it. Watch English Education such as @englishwithadriana where this channel focus on speaking and listening skill. It give practical tips on pronunciation, intonation and confidence to listening practice.

3. Reading Skill

    There are some digital technologies used by students to improve their reading skill, they are: Social Media (Instagram, TikTOk Facebook) where the students can read the reels, story, comment and caption from the content creator. In Instagram and TikTok, the students follow some content creator English Education such as Andrea Holm English (@andreaholmenglish): where presents interactive content, including skits and real-life scenarios, to clarify grammar and vocabulary, enhancing reading comprehension through contextual learning. Video where the students can watch

and read the English subtitles from video can help the students reading practice. Google Translate where the student use it to find the meaning of the sentence to make the students easier to understand the text.

4. Writing Skill

There are some digital technologies used by students to improve their writing skill, they are: Google translate to support and help the students to writing English with spelling and grammar correctly. After that use google translate also help them to check the sentence meaning and check unclear part. Social media Instagram and Facebook to practice the students writing skill such as write comment and caption in social media. After that, the students follow @xyghde where the content or videos present tips and trick to improve writing skill such as punctuation, grammar, vocabulary and writing challenge. So, the students can practice to writing use tutorial from this channel.

The dominant digital technology used by students in learning English Skills is Social Media.

SUGGESTION

For English Students:
The students can add their digital technologies referencing to make their learning English Skills more be varieties. Such as:

a. Listening Skill: For improving their Listening Skill can uses some digital technologies such as: Spotify; JOOX;TED Talks; Libri Vox;.TES, Duolino, Ling Q
b. Speaking Skill: For Speaking Skills, they can uses Audio Recording, Elsa Speak, Dictionary, Aplikasi Discord; Speechling and Duolingo.
c. Reading Skill: E-Book, Article, Google Play Book, Libby, Storynory, Game; Libri Vox; Oxford Owl
d. Writing Skill: Grammarly, Duolingo, Dictionary;.Quillbot, Slick Write, Hemingway Editor, Storybird, WordPress

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