

## **AN ANALYSIS OF TEACHING VOCABULARIES BY USING ENGLISH STICKERS IN WHATSAPP FOR STUDENTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 68 BENGKULU CITY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This research aims to find out students' responses or opinions regarding the use of English stickers in the WhatsApp application in the learning process. The subjects of this research were class 6A students at SDN 68 Bengkulu City. 13 children have used stickers in the WhatsApp application to interact with both friends and teachers. Researchers used interview guidelines to collect data. The results of this research show that the majority of children show a positive response to the use of English stickers on WhatsApp as a learning method.

**Kata kunci :** *Learning, WhatsApp, Stickers, Social Media.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

English or English is an international language. English is the most frequently used foreign language in almost all parts of the country. The use of English is the main asset when traveling abroad. As time progresses, the demand for mastering English as an international language becomes higher, therefore English is an important thing in language or communication progress. As we know, learning English is not an easy thing, especially for countries where their native language is not English and English is rarely used. To study English, of course, you often have to get used to speaking or communicating in English so that it becomes easier and makes the English language more fluent. Learning English can be said to be a little difficult, as happens to Indonesian students or children who are used to using Indonesian or their mother tongue, namely Indonesian. This habit makes them experience several difficulties, such as mentioning English vocabulary which is very different from Indonesian, therefore they need to get used to learning this.

Talking about study and learning, students in Indonesia also learn English from an early age or from the time they start attending school, such as kindergarten, elementary school, junior high school, up to high school. English lessons are lessons that are already on the list of students' subjects, starting from children starting kindergarten who are taught English from letters and numbers, singing in English, giving greetings in English. Then at

the elementary school level, they also learn simple English according to that level, such as learning the names of animals, objects, and several simple words or sentences such as greetings, invitations, motivation, also asking several questions and other basic vocabulary to make them understand. some English from the things around them. Continuing at the junior and senior high school levels where students have started to learn formulas or tenses in making good and correct English sentences, this makes the level of English lessons seem a little difficult.

English is a language that requires a lot of concentration to learn and understand. Because in English you don't only learn about communication skills, but there are several other skills that children or students must be able to master, including four skills (speaking, writing, listening, and reading). Each of these skills must be mastered at least the basics. These four skills also have an important role in learning English. With advances in technology, it is now increasingly easier to learn these four skills, in all areas of English such as learning to write sentences, listening to English conversations, reading and learning to communicate or speak. Communication is undeniably a very important activity for humankind. They really need communication with each other to exchange information. Moreover, the rapid development of technology from time to time makes it very easy for humans to interact. One of the communications technology innovations that continues to develop is smartphones equipped with social media applications, such as WhatsApp.

WhatsApp is an example of social media that has a positive impact on human interaction. Its development tends to not only allow people to communicate through writing and voice, but also send stickers to express emotions and information from the sender to the recipient, or vice versa. The positive influence that can result from using these stickers is an increase in English vocabulary obtained from using stickers from WhatsApp. Adding vocabulary has an impact on increasing a person's ability to use English better. However, before explaining in more depth, the most important thing is to know the meaning of the vocabulary. Kridalaksana (2011:89) states that the meaning of vocabulary is: 1) a language component that contains information about the meaning and use of words in language; 2) the richness of words owned by speakers, writers, or the language itself; and 3) a list of words arranged like a dictionary, but with short and practical explanations. In other words, vocabulary is all the words in a particular language that are used by speakers and writers to communicate.

Lear vocabulary in various languages certainly requires effort and process, one of which is English. This is also felt by school students. In the context of the research, students at SD 68 Bengkulu City were used as research subjects. The existence of social media such as Whatsapp and Instagram is considered to be able to help students improve their English vocabulary. Ardiansah and Maharani (2021) stated that social media is media used to facilitate interaction between users and has the characteristics of two-way communication.

SD 68 students in Bengkulu City seem to really use WhatsApp as a social media that helps them learn English. Based on the researcher's initial

observations, some students used stickers containing English to express their intentions and share information with other students.

The author's belief in the use of WhatsApp at SD 68 Bengkulu City is not only based on initial observations, but also based on the author's teaching experience at the school in the context of additional learning system trial activities or English language courses which were carried out for approximately 1 to 2 months which were established under the name ASIX English Course taught to class 5A and 5B students. In the process of implementing the teaching, the student group also implemented lessons through an online system via the WhatsApp group, which in the group contained conversations between the tutor and the students in classes 6A which discussed various kinds of students' questions about English that they did not yet know, such as English congratulatory sentences, praise sentences, nouns in everyday life or simple words that can be used in their daily habits. Then, this condition is also used by tutors from ASIX English Course to observe and use WhatsApp as a second tool and method in the teaching and learning process, including the use of English stickers which of course have the function and use of providing answers and appreciation to students.

This condition will certainly have a positive impact on the English language skills of students at the school. Therefore, this background explanation encouraged researchers to conduct research entitled "An Analysis of Teaching Vocabularies by Using Stickers In WhatsApp for Students Elementary School 68 Bengkulu City".

## **Literature Review**

### **2.1. Vocabulary**

Everyone must of course have the knowledge and language skills to communicate in a particular language. One effort to have this competency can be started by increasing the vocabulary in a language. Therefore, vocabulary becomes an important aspect for understanding and using a particular language.

Every word in a language is called vocabulary. Every vocabulary must have a definite meaning to be applied. Fard and Samira (2013: 69) say that vocabulary is defined as a fairly large component in the learning process. Learners at all levels of proficiency will encounter situations where they can only understand part of a written text or a sentence due to the fact that they do not know all the words. Vocabulary is an important component in learning English, one of the main requirements in learning or learning English is that you must be able to remember or master basic vocabulary that is often used in everyday life. In this modern and sophisticated era, it is certainly very easy to learn something or find and get the information we want to know via the internet and social media. We can find various information through social media.

### **2.2. Social media**

Social media is very popular all over the world. Social media makes it easier for many people in the world to communicate with each other, even though they are separated by long distances. In human interaction, social media has become very useful because of technology, such as

smartphones. Smartphones or cell phones are very common communication tools and we encounter them every day, carrying out various activities via these cell phones. There are many things that can be used, such as doing work via a smartphone, which is a convenience provided by increasingly sophisticated technology, and learning can also be done with a smartphone. The use of various social media or social media applications can facilitate or add new learning innovations that are interesting for children and even adults.

Ardiansah and Maharani (2021) define social media as a means or media used to facilitate interaction between users and has the characteristics of two-way communication. As seen today, social media continues to progress. One of the advances is that everyone can interact with each other by expressing feelings and information via stickers, for example Whatsapp. One of the most popular message reply applications and is used by almost all smartphone or social media users of various generations. Starting from children, teenagers, adults, even the elderly have also used this WhatsApp application. This social media is very useful for users to send various kinds of stickers to express their meaning.

### **2.3. WhatsApp**

Communication is undeniably a very important activity for humankind. They really need communication with each other to exchange information. Moreover, the rapid development of technology from time to time makes it very easy for humans to interact. One of the communications technology innovations that continues to develop is smartphones equipped with social media applications, such as WhatsApp. WhatsApp is an example of social media that has a positive impact on human interaction. Its development tends to not only allow people to communicate through writing and voice, but also send stickers to express emotions and information from the sender to the recipient, or vice versa.

According to Lensi Wahyuni (2021), WhatsApp is a message-based social media application that can be used to exchange messages without being charged for SMS or credit because WhatsApp uses the internet network, so it can not only send messages in the form of text but can also send documents, files, photos and videos, as well as GPS. If in the past communication tools could only exchange messages in the form of text, in this era they not only use text but can also send voice messages which are often referred to as (voice notes), they can not only send voice messages, the more sophisticated technology is now in applications. WhatsApp can also send stickers in various languages and attractive designs.

The positive influence that can result from using these stickers is an increase in English vocabulary obtained from using stickers from WhatsApp. Adding vocabulary has an impact on increasing a person's ability to use English better. However, like human-made applications in general, this WhatsApp application also has advantages and disadvantages in its use, including in teaching and learning activities. According to Putikayasa (2019) in Kompasiana.com with the title "The Advantages and Disadvantages of the WhatsApp Application as an Online Learning Media", there are several advantages and disadvantages to WhatsApp, namely as follows:

A. WhatsApp advantages:

- 1) You don't have to log in first to access WhatsApp if your cellphone number is already registered.
- 2) Instantly connect with other WhatsApp user contacts.
- 3) Users can exchange contacts with other users.
- 4) Can share current location.
- 5) Can send messages to many people (broadcast).
- 6) This application does not use up too much quota.
- 7) Teachers and students can discuss and ask questions in a more relaxed manner.
- 8) Can see who has read and who is inactive.
- 9) Teachers can send documents, photos, audio or videos as learning materials to students via WhatsApp groups.
- 10) Teachers and students can view and repeat learning material via cellphone easily.
- 11) Teachers and students can communicate anytime and anywhere.

B. Disadvantages of WhatsApp:

- 1) Users must be connected to an internet service to use this application, if not connected it will hinder the online learning process
- 2) Communication is only by chat, people's capacity is limited if they want to meet face to face virtually (video call).

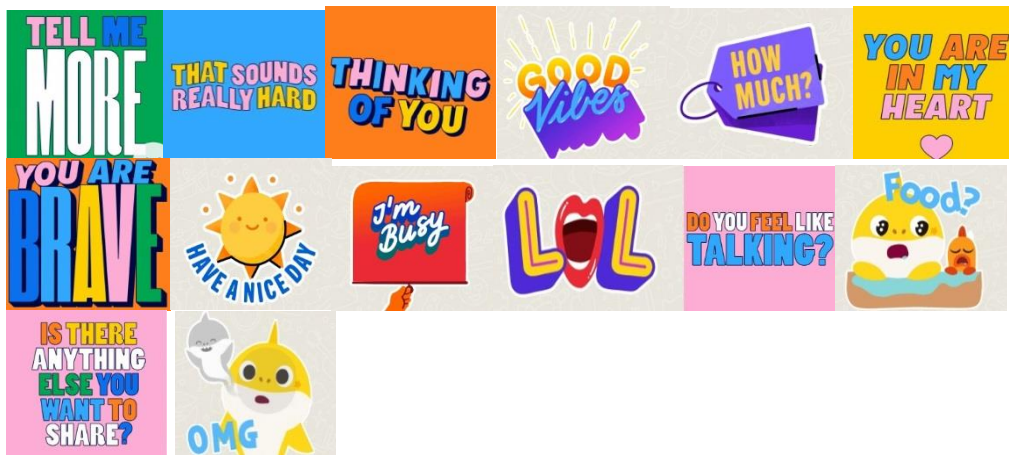
#### 2.4. Stiker

Stickers can be defined as adhesive labels or notices, generally printed or illustrated. This makes it easier for individuals or groups of people to interpret emotions. The use of stickers can convey facial expressions. In other words, stickers are able to show the facial expression of the sender. Stickers express messages that cannot be written in words. Stickers allow people to describe themselves.

The development of the times has produced sophisticated technological equipment for communication. One of them is a smartphone equipped with a number of social media applications, such as WhatsApp and Instagram. Both cannot just send messages with words but also through certain images to express the user's intentions. In this case, stickers on both social media can be applied to express the user's feelings, for example stickers to encourage the recipient of the message. Here are some examples of stickers that are frequently used and can be used.

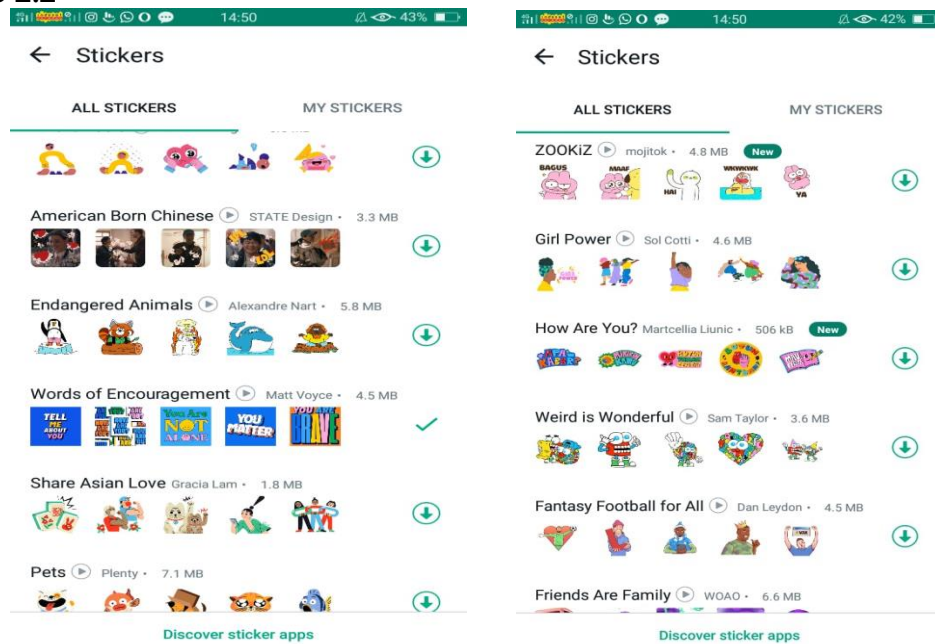
Figure 2.1





Apart from the several examples of stickers above, other stickers can also be obtained by downloading them in the WhatsApp application itself. We can also choose what kind of sticker we want.

Figure 2.2



## **METHODOLOGY**

This research was designed as qualitative descriptive research because the researcher did almost no calculations, but emphasized the quality, content and evidence of the research. Because a literary work is the subject of research, the design is allowed to apply content analysis to it. The characteristics of qualitative research are different from quantitative research, especially differences in the form of data analyzed. Summer (in Jupp, 2006: 248-249) states that qualitative research is research that focuses on investigating various aspects of human social life and has characteristics that are opposite to quantitative measurements. This is very commonly explained using descriptive methods. Qualitative research is sometimes considered a more flexible scientific method than quantitative research which deals more with data, both numbers and statistics.

Reality construction is an important part of qualitative research. This really requires support from participant subjectivity to determine research results. Murdiyanto (2016:12) firmly states that research results rely on people's subjectivity in constructing reality. There are several functions of qualitative research that lead to its objectives, such as: 1) looking for a theoretical basis; 2) prioritizing process over results; and 3) underline a set of data to check its validity. This was designed as a temporary study. Both the researcher and the subject must agree with each other.

This research uses content analysis because the research subject is in written form. Suyitno (2018:121) emphasizes that content analysis is considered a comprehensive discussion that links written information. Here some good stickers on Whatsapp are one form. The researcher tried to explain clearly that these stickers could be used for additional student learning processes in their teaching English.

In this research, the researcher will apply this research method to 12 6A class students, consisting of 11 female students and 1 male students. In this research the subject is stickers on WhatsApp used by school students at SD 68 Bengkulu City. The stickers may be used for their own English teaching. Apart from that, researchers will analyze the results of interviews with several students regarding students' responses or opinions regarding teaching via English stickers on WhatsApp for them.

## **FINDING AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Finding of the research**

In their research, researchers asked several questions to class 6A students regarding the use of English stickers on the WhatsApp application in the teaching and learning process. The following are the results of interviews between the author and the students:

#### **A. How do students respond to stickers in the WhatsApp application?**

In this research, researchers conducted interviews with several class 6A students to get results or answers to questions related to stickers and WhatsApp. The following is a list of their answers or responses regarding the questions above:

Lesi Indriani: "Good"  
Indah : "Good"  
Zaza: "Good"  
Adlin: "Exciting"  
Marissa: "Good"  
Sifa: "Fun"  
Ifa: "It's not good"  
Asifa : "Exciting and enjoyable"  
Zaskia : "Interesting"  
Elsa: "Interesting, but don't really like it"  
Eci: "Fun"  
Zizi: "Fun"

#### **B. Is it fun to use stickers as a learning medium?**

The second question was asked again to students to see their responses or opinions regarding stickers on their learning process and the following answers were:

Lesi Indriani: "Fun"  
Indah : "Fun"  
Zaza: "Fun"  
Adlin : "Fun"  
Marissa : "Fun"  
Sifa: "Fun"  
Ifa: ""Fun"  
Asifa : "Fun"  
Zaskia : "Interesting"  
Elsa: "Fun"  
Eci: "Fun"  
Zizi: "Fun"

#### **c. What is the positive impact of using stickers as a learning medium for students?**

The third question was asked again to the students concerned to see what kind of impact the use of stickers as a learning medium had on students, here are the answers:

Lesi Indriani: "It's better to use that"  
Indah : "Nice stickers"  
Zaza: "So it's good"  
Adlin: "I don't know"  
Marissa : "Anime"  
Sifa: "Increasing learning insight"



Ifa: "Ay no, no, no eh, no good"  
Asifa: "Exciting"  
Zaskia: "Interesting, like what...exciting, exciting"  
Elsa: "Interesting"  
Eci: "Makes Learning Easier"  
Zizi: "More interesting"

**d. Do Students often Use English Stickers on Whatsapp When Exchanging Messages?**

The fourth question is aimed at finding out how often students use English stickers in conversations with friends and teachers, and here is the answer.

Lesi Indriani: "Sering"  
Indah: "Sering"  
Zaza: "Sering"  
Adlin: "Sering"  
Marissa: "Sering"  
Sifa: "Sering"  
Ifa: "Ya"  
Asifa: "Pernah"  
Zaskia: "Eee... jarang"  
Elsa: "sering"  
Eci: "Belum"  
Zizi: "Nggak, jarang"

**e. What kind of stickers are often used by students on the WhatsApp application?**

The final question aims to find out what examples or types of stickers are often used by students in the WhatsApp application, here are the opinions and answers:

Lesi Indriani: "Question mark stickers, dizziness"  
Indah: "Like that, anime-anime"  
Zaza: "Anime"  
Adlin: "Burn down the house"  
Marissa: "Anime"  
Sifa: "Eee...gift stickers, what else is that?"  
Ifa: "Dak Suko"  
Asifa: "Learning stickers, funny stickers"  
Zaskia: "Eee... like a cute sticker"  
Elsa: "Pictures like that"  
Eci: "Funny stickers"

Zizi: "Stickers that are so cute" Apart from several conversations and several questions asked to students above, to strengthen the statement regarding stickers on the WhatsApp application the author also prepared several questions inspired by Lensi Wahyuni in (2021) and developed them into several questions. This question was addressed to one of the English teachers at SD 68 Bengkulu City to find out what the teacher as a teaching staff responded to in using English sticker media on the WhatsApp application for the teaching and learning process for students and teachers.

**f. What is the role of using stickers on the WhatsApp application in learning in class V A at SDN 68 Bengkulu City?**

In the following interview session, it was answered directly by one of the English teachers at SD 68 Bengkulu City, Mrs. Cut Rahma S.pd, who said that.

*"What do you mean by WhatsApp stickers in chat? Oh that's very good and really helps to represent feelings, right?"*

**g. How do students respond to the method of using English stickers on the WhatsApp application in learning in class 6A at SDN 68 Bengkulu City?**

The second question was answered again by Mrs. Cut Ratna, S.Pd who expressed the following opinion.

*"Students also seem to be happier if someone has WhatsApp with stickers because maybe their emotions are conveyed better, if you smile then smile, for example full of love with stickers full of love"*

**h. What is the positive impact for students of using English stickers on the WhatsApp application in learning in class 6A ?**

The next question was also answered well by Mrs. Cut Ratna, S.Pd as follows.

*"The positive impact of using WhatsApp? Oh, there are so many, it's good for a means of communication. The first thing is important, right, for a means of communication. And sometimes we don't know what to type with stickers, so we can overcome that with stickers, right? Feelings of happiness or feelings of joy, laughter, or sadness. Now I often use it, often yes I often use it. Especially sometimes I don't know why because it's a habit, right, so that our emotions are conveyed."*

**i. What are the obstacles in using English stickers on the WhatsApp application in the learning process?**

Mrs. Cut Ratna, S.Pd also explained the obstacles she faced in using stickers or WhatsApp as follows.

*"What kind of obstacles are there? I'm most worried about being hijacked right now, I'm worried about someone being evil and spreading hoax news."*

**j. What Are Your Methods Or Solutions For Dealing With These Obstacles In Using English Stickers On The Whatsapp Application?**

After expressing her concerns regarding the obstacles to using WhatsApp in learning, Ms. Cut Ratna, S.Pd, again revealed several solutions and ways to overcome possible obstacles in using WhatsApp as a learning medium.

*"Well, at most we just miss the news, don't we pay too much attention to it. "And as for what it is for, I don't know yet. So that the book is safe from hackers or from piracy, that's the most important thing about protecting the number of plagues, right?"*

## Discussion

Stickers on WhatsApp are images that can mark a feeling in the content of a message. Stickers can convey the meaning of someone's message without having to express it through words. Various types of stickers can be easily obtained in the WhatsApp application just by downloading the available stickers. Expressing

something is not an easy thing, but through these stickers students can more easily tell what they feel, not only learning about words but also the expressions involved in it.

Based on the results of the interview above, the researcher concluded that the use of stickers in the WhatsApp application has a good or positive influence on students in class 6A SD 68 Bengkulu City. These stickers can help raise students' positive mood or feelings with fun things in learning and make students not feeling bored with school activities or assignments. The students of class 6A SD 68 Bengkulu City expressed good responses and responses to the use of stickers, the word "fun" uttered by the students made the researchers conclude that stickers and the WhatsApp application were in demand and liked by children or students in generating good means of communication and learning in the same time. WhatsApp is an application that has many advantages and has received a lot of interest from various groups.

Some of the features of WhatsApp that are used and can be accessed by anyone are for example chat (messages), telephone, voice notes, video calls, and don't forget stickers. Even though it is still seen that there are one to two students who do not like this sticker medium or who have not used English stickers in exchanging messages, it can be seen that almost all of the students said that they consider stickers as a learning medium to be interesting. This conclusion was drawn based on student responses in direct interviews by researchers and students.

The same thing with students, teachers from class 6A SD 68 Bengkulu City gave responses that were no less good than their students. His views regarding WhatsApp stickers and his confession that he also often uses stickers led researchers to conclude that the learning process using these stickers brings or provides good things that are not only felt by teachers as teaching staff but also students.

## **Conclusions and Suggestions**

### **Conclusions**

Based on the results of research conducted by the author, it can be concluded that the use of English stickers for students and teachers in learning facilities and as a learning medium has a positive impact for both parties and also the use of stickers almost received a good response from the children.

### **Suggestions**

Based on the results of this research, it can be recommended that students be able to explore new and more examples of English stickers and actively communicate with each other by using stickers in the WhatsApp application. And teachers are advised to guide students to be more careful in using stickers and actively invite students to create interesting conversations and respond to things using stickers. And researchers are advised to conduct similar research related to the use of English stickers in the WhatsApp application as a learning medium with a larger sample size.

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