THE USE OF DUOLINGO APPLICATION TO INCREASE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY OF THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP YWKA PALEMBANG

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ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM

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UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH PALEMBANG

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Beserta seluruh isinya adalah benar merupakan hasil karya sendiri dan saya tidak melakukan penjiplakan atau pengutipan dengan cara – cara yang tidak sesuai dengan etika keilmuan dalam masyarakat ilmiah.

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

Motto:

❖ "And He is with you wherever you are (Al-Quran 57;4) "

Dedication

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ABSTRACT

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Keywords: Vocabulary, Duolingo Application

The objective of this research was to find out whether or not it is effective to use Duolingo Application to increase students vocabulary in the sevent grade of SMP YWKA Palembang. The method of this study was Quasi-Experimental Study. The population of this study was the sevent grade students of SMP YWKA Palembang. The sample consist of 40 students from VII.1 as the Experimental Class and 40 students from VII.2 as the Control Class . The Experimental Class taught by using Duolingo Application and Control taught without using Duolingo Application. The research instrument was Pre-test and Post-test, In analyzing the data showed the result of the value of the t- obtained in Experimental Class was -3.836 df (degree of freedom) the formula is (n-1) sample is 40 , df was 39. At the significance level more than 0,5 for the 2 tailed and degree of freedom df was 39 , therefore t-obtained was higher than t –table. So Ho (nul hypothesis) was rejected and Ha (alternative hypothesis) was accepted. The result of the study Indicated that the use of Duolingo Application can increase student's vocabulary of the seventh grade students of SMP YWKA Palembang in Academic year 2022/2023.

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The researcher realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect. There are still many weaknesses that need to be improved in this thesis. The researcher accepts any kind of criticism, comments, suggestion, and advice Last but not least, she hopes that this thesis will be useful for the university and the next researcher in the future.

Palembang, April 2023

The researcher,

Tri Ulan Dari

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents: (A) the background of the research (B) the formulation of the problems (C) the objective of the research (D) the significance of teh study (E) hypothesis.

A. Background

English is as a foreign language consists of four skills namelly, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Gumartifa (2021) said, these skills have a particular issue that happens differently for each student. For this reason, it's not easy to understand and master the four language skills effectively. Several issues need to overcome first to increase the effectivenessof each ability. According to Cahyono and Widiati (2008), talking about language or language learning, students always think of vocabulary development by learning the "words". In addition the grammar and pronunciation is one of language elements considered necessary for language mastery. Vocabulary is the basic knowledge and very important for the learners in their lives as well as that they can communicate well. Students learn language without knowing many vocabulary so they will not be able to communicate well and difficult to understand.

Mofareh (2015), vocabulary learning is an essential part in foreign language learning as the meanings of new words are very often emphasized, whether in books or in classrooms. Mastering vocabulary is not easy, moreover other aspects of the language are considered such as; sound, and structure (Schmitt, 2000, p.1). According to Harmer, when the grammar or the structure of one language plays role to build up the skeleton of language, then it is vocabulary be the component that provide the vital organ and the flesh."From this statement, we can conclude that vocabulary is the one item that has to be mastered in learning English, because as one of the language components, learning the vocabulary is necessary because more words students know, the better chance to understand. The aim of mastering vocabulary is that students are able to acquire language comprehension well. With enhanced vocabulary, students grow in skills of verbal fluency, writing, and comprehension (Willis, 2010).

Acknowledging the importance of vocabulary through language learning, Thornbury (2012) stated that without mastering grammar, there is only a small portion of language that can be acquired, but without vocabulary, there is nothing we can convey. Thornbury (2012, p. 13), means that vocabulary is the basic of language and must be mastered first. The size of vocabularies that the students need is about 2000 words. It means after several years of learning English language, the students needed to master about 2000 words to be able to communicate with people. According to Mofareh (2015), considering the importance of the role of vocabulary mastery, especially for EFL students, the teacher should find method, technique, and media that can help the students to learn vocabulary.

In Indonesia the Ministry of Education and Culture, has made many efforts to make students familiar with English language because English is considered as the foreign language. English is officially taught in Senior high school especially in the tenth grade. Students are required to understand English text whether in written or in spoken form. According to Tozcu and Coady (2004), the problem in learning English for the students is that they are lack of vocabulary. It was based on the observation at the school, there are some reasons that learning vocabulary is difficult. Many students spend their time to learn new vocabulary, but they still complain that it is not easy to remember the English words and there is no way to avoid forgetting. It means that the students will not be able to speak, to read, to write even to listen in English. In other words, mastering the right method and technique in vocabulary learning is crucial for successful learning of the English language (Xue, 2017, p. 12).

Susanto (2021), many students spend their time learning new vocabulary. There are several factors that cause students' difficulties in learning vocabulary, namely the written form is different from the oral form in English, the number of words that students need to learn is very large, the limited source of information about words, the complexity of the word knowledge. In other words, mastering the appropriate methods and techniques in learning vocabulary is very important for the success of learning English. However, in term of learning English many students sometimes are not interested in a delivered material and still confused to learn English. It is caused by traditional learning methods, that is teacher which is not support the students to practice in the class actively (Richards, 2002, p. 298).

It means that students can not to express their feeling in English directly, and it is the main problems faced by students in the class. Therefore, the teacher should be creative to decide an appropriate strategy that helps students to develop their vocabulary knowledge.

Clark and Megan (2013, p. 2) state that technology has developed rapidly, thus technology has become a necessary in various aspects. It means technology can make students easier for our needs, especially to offer the opportunity and to support the students to improve the quality of language learning. Technology can be used as an engaging, supplementary tool to foster vocabulary learning for ELLs. The technology certainly has a positive and also a negative impact. Therefore, many students do not understand the benefits of technology. According to Ericsson (2009), some students use technology or smartphone just for pleasure especially playing the game. Broadly speaking, the function of teachers is to help students learn by imparting knowledge to them and by setting up a situation in which students can and will learn effectively. Thus, is needed for teachers to solve this problem and also become a challenge of how to use the technology of smartphone properly and beneficial in order to achieve the maximum result (Dewey, 2009).

According to Gumartifa (2020), the technology of information and communication (ICT) has evolved in the sector of education. Many elements have dramatically changged exponentially over the past three decades. It can modify and simplify the development of learning activities. According to Izzan (2010), technologies overcome some difficulties in English language learning such as videos, podcasts, worksheets, e-learning, apps, and websites, as well as other technology tools are very useful. The teachers should have teaching technique and media then students enjoy the learning English activities especially in mastering vocabulary. The media are commonly used as an additional support in teachercentered teaching. The media that can be applied in teaching vocabulary is by using Duolingo application. It is an educational mobile application that consists of many skills such as vocabulary, reading, writing, listening, grammar, and also speaking (Russell & Cieslik, 2012).

Fauzi (2018) was the student from State Islamic University Antasari Banjarmasin. In his research about "The Effectiveness of Duolingo in Improving Vocabulary Ability". Amin (2019) was the student from State Islamic Institute Tulung Agung. In her research about "The Effectiveness of Duolingo on Students' Vocabulary Mastery". The research have similarities and differences in their research results.

In his study have similarities stated that Duolingo is a useful language application that can provide learners with practical and systematic steps to learn a new language on their own It means that Duolingo application can provides the opportunity to the students to expand their vocabulary knowledge. Meanwhile, The differences in their research results. In Fauzi' research (2018), Duolingo application was used to improving vocabulary ability at sixth grade of Elementary School. While, inAmin's research (2019), they used Duolingo to improve vocabulary ability at seventh grade of Islamic Junior High School. So, the writer in this research used Duolingo to develop students' vocabulary knowledge at seventh grade students of junior high school. Even though there are some differences described above, but this research and those researches have same the variable that is Duolingo.

From the two research, the researcher can conclude that for the first his research result stated that using Duolingo application is more effective than not using Duolingo application. While, the second research stated that Duolingo application is more effective and interesting than the conventional teaching in teaching English about vocabulary to the students.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher would like to apply the Duolingo application that may help students to increases their vocabulary and also would like to investigate the using of Duolingo Application in teaching vocabulary to increases students' vocabulary at the seventh grade of SMP YWKA Palembang Year 2022.

B.Formulation of the Problems

The research was formulated in the following question:

Is it effective to use Duolingo Application in increasing students' vocabulary at the seventh grade students of SMP YWKA Palembang?

C. The Objective of the Research

The objective of the research was to find out whether or not it is effective to use Duolingo Application to increase students' vocabulary in the seventh grade of SMP YWKA Palembang.

D. The Significance of the Study

In learning English, vocabulary is highly important for students in their lives wellas that they can communicate well. This issue makes the students need to practice that is capable of helping them to enrich vocabulary knowledge. By knowing their vocabulary knowledge, then they are expected to master their vocabulary successfully. Therefore, this study will be useful:

- 1. For the teachers, to give an alternative way to enrich their vocabulary knowledge in the learning process.
- 2. For the learners, to increase the motivation of the learner and provide more attractive learning environments, and it can also be used to develop their skills in English because it will give positive effect to learners a lot of new experiences to be a good English.
- 3. For the researchers, the results of this study are expected to expand new insight in conducting research about Duolingo application in teaching and learning vocabulary.

E. Hypothesis

According to the Fraenkel and Wallen (2012) hypothesis simply put a prediction of the possible outcomes of a study, (p.45). the writer purposes two hypothesis in this research. They are alternative hypothesis (Ha) and the null hypothesis (Ho).

- (Ho) : The null hypothesis : it is not effective to use Duolingo Application in creasing students' vocabulary at the seventh grade students of SMP YWKA Palembang .
- (Ha) : It is effective to use Duolingo Application in creasing students' vocabulary at the seventh grade students of SMP YWKA Palembang .

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