

The Use of WhatsApp in Enhance Vocabulary Mastery at the Third Semester of UIN Syahada Padangsidempuan

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ABSTRACT

Media is one of the important part in education. Media is related with technology. Whatsapp is one of the media that use in teaching English. This media is quite popular than other apps. Whatsapp give many advantages. It also provides many tools and features in different roles such as collaboration, group discussion and even shared use for co-learning activities. Students assigned to a specific group discussion can chat, discuss, and share instantly. The method of this study is qualitative with descriptive method. Qualitative study refers in taking data continuously. The instrument of this study some documents such as journal, thesis, and any related academic document. The finding of this study is students and lectures like to use WhatsApp cause 1) it is easy to use, and the feature is simple. Then, 2) this app also not require much data. 3) It is a familiar app in nowadays. Then, from interview with three students of the third semester in UIN Syahada Padangsidempuan, it can be known that two students use WhatsApp to learn English such as for group discussion and communicate with their friend.

Key words: Media; WhatsApp; English

INTRODUCTION

Education is one of an important part in every aspects of life. By education, people would get knowledge, having new friend, having networking, and having wide mindset. Every one is required to gain knowledge. Beside the things above, getting good education would give impact for individual and group. Good education system become an indicator of a country.

It can be seen in modern country like USA, South Korea and Japan give big attention to education. Those country make education as the main aspect and realized it should get a serious attention. Some policies like updating curriculum, qualified teacher, good facility and enough budget from the government are some of things that done by those countries. Next, modern country usually have education quality equally. Unlike Indonesia, which have different education system in every region. For those who live in the capital city, would get a good education system, but for someone who live in a rural or far away from the capital city would not get a good education. Some problems that found in education system is the facility, the teacher, media, and the motivation of students. Those problem often face and find in education field in Indonesia.

Moreover, education must be updated, the media process of teaching and technology as well. Technology nowadays has been running so fast. In now era, technology implemented in every aspects of life, include in education field. Teacher in school teach by some tools and learning apps. This mean education has raised a new part. Teacher and students should follow this update. Then, the use of technology in education can be seen in some aspects such as, lots of website education, apps, and video that provide free courses for learners. Now era, every person is required to take advantage of the technology. Even, someone can study without going to school. By the internet and stay at home, a student can access lots of learning sources.

Beside that, with all the convenience many students still not use the advantages of it. Especially for students who live in a rural society. The technology only use for gaming, entertaining and chatting. This give negative impact of technology. Students seem to be complacent and lazy to study. Then, as mentioned above, apps take a big attention in education field. One of the apps that most use by students is Whatsapp.

Whatsapp is a popular apps that used to chat, send picture, make a phone and video call. This app is easy to use. Most of people nowadays have WhatsApp app in their phone. This app can be used for studying cause there is tool for making a group. Teacher often use it to send task and check the presence of the students. However, there are some advantages of this app such as not required lots of data, the simple tool, and easy to use. However, the use of whatsapp in English Foreign Language has been popular especially in vocabulary aspect. This study would see how far Whatsapp App give the advantages in English foreign language class.

Whatsapp can be categorized into media. It is a tool to help teacher explain the material. In Indonesia, teaching English to young learners is part of the curriculum. This is based on Ministerial Decree No. 22 of 2006 dated May 23, 2006, which stipulates that English classes can be provided to elementary school students as local content. This decree introduces English in primary schools, with English being taught twice a week starting in grade 4 (Aini, 2013). Media is very crucial to support teaching learning process. It let students to absorb the material easily. The usage of appropriate media in teaching learning process should be required. Media is the term first used over two centuries ago to describe newspapers, television and radio (Umoh, 2020). Today, media has many connotations. For example, we have social, mass, print, and even visuals. Media is a communication channel. As media takes on a different meaning than broader social, mass media, print and visual media. No doubt their applicability has also earned them an ineffective status teaching and learning are improved and maintained. Media (plural, media) are means of communication and sources of information. Derived from the Latin word for "between," the term refers to anything that transmits information between a source and a receiver (Wirawan, 2020).

One of the tool to access social media is by using Smartphones, it has replaced PC as the new language learning platform because they are more usable and accessible (Banselam, 2018). Smartphones have become an effective tool for delivering learning content to students. WhatsApp also provides many tools and features in different roles such as collaboration, group discussion and even shared use for co-learning activities. Students assigned to a specific group discussion which they can chat, discuss, and share instantly. For large classes, teachers can divide into several groups for different purposes. (Kholis, 2020) WhatsApp's services and features description, the application offers an instant messaging service that runs on multiple platforms such as Android, iOS and Windows, allowing users to send messages, images, videos and documents internationally. will do so. This happens at no extra charge and uses your internet connection instead. (Haerani, 2022). Teacher can use this app to enhance the teaching learning. In order to know the students perception in using vocabulary as the media to improve their students, this research want to conduct the reseacrh about The Use of WhatsApp in Enhance Vocabulary Mastery at the Third Semester of UIN Syahada Padangsidimpuan.

METHODS

The method of this study is qualitative with descriptive method. Qualitative study refers in taking data continously. Then, descriptive method means this study would describe the data that got in the field in real without any treatment. Qualitative research tend to collect data in the field at the site where the participant experience the issue or problem under study. They do not bring individuals into a lab nor do they typically send out instrument for individuals to complete (Cresswell, 2009).

The instrument of this study are interview and documents such as journal, thesis, and any related academic document. The document would be study by the researcher and try to comprehend it before analysis. The document would be interpret and see how WhatsApp facilitate English Foreign Language. There are three students who choose as the subject of this research. They would be interview by the researcher. This research used open and closed ended question which means student need to answer "yes" and "not" for some questions and some are no rules, students free to answer without limiting it.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result of Documents

In Banselam research, he found that the overwhelming majority of students who participated in the survey (experimental group participants) were positive about using WhatsApp for vocabulary learning. In fact, 90% of his participants thought learning new words on WhatsApp was an interesting way to learn. 81% of those surveyed enjoy learning new vocabulary on WhatsApp. Students' positive impressions of WhatsApp as a vocabulary learning tool increased their motivation to complete the coursework. In fact, 76% of her students said they found WhatsApp helpful and motivated them to learn vocabulary. They were able to flexibly use the time and space available to complete their tasks and complete them at their own pace. None of the students expressed any concerns about the convenience of using WhatsApp.

Next, from Kholis research who interviewed the lecturer opinion about WhatsApp. Most lecturers said WhatsApp has many features such as sharing video, document and students enjoy to use it. Then, Whatsapp are easily to use because most of people has WhatsApp as their tool to communicate. Beside interviewed lecturers, the researcher interviewed the students as well. Most of students's answer are positive about WhatsApp. It is a usefull and effective media in learning English, the tools in it very simple and easy to use. Some students also said that WhatsApp not spend a lot of data, it is really help students.

Result of Interview

From the interview with five students from the third grade students of UIN Syahada Padangsidempuan, the result can be seen as follow:

Students AH

Do you think WhatsApp is useful to study English?

Yes, I do.

Do you often Use WhatsApp to communicate with your friends?

Yes, i do often use it.

Do you use WhatsApp to study English? for example like group discussion?

Yes, I often follow English group discussion on WhatsApp, it is really easy to use and i like it.

Students BH

Do you think WhatsApp is useful to study English?

Of course, WhatsApp help me a lot in studying English. I often found someone from facebook, then we move to WhatsApp to communicate.

Do you often Use WhatsApp to communicate with your friends?

Yes, i used it more than another apps.

Do you often Use WhatsApp to communicate with your friends?

Yes, i do.

Do you use WhatsApp to study English?

Yes, i use it to talk with my friend.

Students CS

Do you think WhatsApp is useful to study English?

Well, i do not think so, cause it has limited features. We can cha through it only if we have a number of our friends.

Do you often Use WhatsApp to communicate with your friends?

Yes, i do WhatsApp to communicate like chat with my friends.

Do you use WhatsApp to study English? for example like group discussion?

I do not think so, i only use it to communicate not to studying English.

From the interview with three students of the third semester in UIN Syahada Padangsidempuan, it can be known that two students use WhatsApp to study English. Moreover, one students use it only to communicate, and interact with others. In addition, most of students have WhatsApp and most of them use it for communication.

CONCLUSION

After looked some of the related documents, it can be inferred that WhatsApp is one of the suit media to teach English. Two journals that mention above show how WhatsApp effect lecturers and students in learning English. Some reasons that students and lecturers said it has simple features, easily to use and the app is not require much data. Then, this app seems to be familiar for every person, cause it use for communication. So, teacher do not need to teach how to use it.

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