TikTok As a Learning Medium for Learning Speaking During Pandemic COVID-19: Students’ Perspective of UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto

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Abstract

Speaking skill as one of skills in English competence is required clear interaction involved more than one person for getting the meaning what people say, as essential competence in language, speaking skill detected as the competence got worst impact caused by Pandemic, inside of the practice and development of, related on the students’ limitation while learning process. This situation required the utilization of appropriate online learning media, as one of supportive English speaking platform’s training. TikTok application, with the basic of online learning medium seen as one of familiar media most students used as source of entertainment and knowledge seen as the the supportive media. This study aimed to determine the utilization of TikTok application in learning English followed by students’ perspective in UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto. The methodology used involved qualitative design with descriptive approach, supported by interview on students’ perspective and literature study as the data collection. The population taken from students of English Education 2020 at UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto. Furthermore, the researchers had known the result of research as various data from students’ perspective on the use of TikTok, both effective or not and the domination of response notably the reasons of.

Keywords: Online learning medium; English speaking skill; TikTok application.

INTRODUCTION

Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) is like a disaster was coming in the first of 2020. Assumed a worst disease which is an acute respiratory infectious disease affected many people in the worldwide especially in Indonesia. The situation causes education minister to decide for having an online learning or hybrid class system. As we know that this virus emerged caused people death rapidly. Government decides for education system that could be moved from offline to online basis learning, it make any people feel disappointed about new rules. Students supposed to get their own right to doing a conventional study like usual, but situation is unpredictable with current disaster. Nowadays, students still have an online study process or from home or even...
hybrid system. This situation requires the utilization of some applications to support the learning process.

Media is tools that used to assist learning activity. Online media was common use in daily at school as a learning medium from far since COVID-19. While, TikTok is an application that show videos or information to study and the TikTok application is a social medium that can upload videos with various video editing features so that they can be created as desired (Hadi and Indriani 2021). The use of the TikTok application can be used with a mobile phone, so it can also be called m-learning. In current, many students choose to learn by doing through TikTok because its benefit such as; the time efficiency and effectiveness while understanding the material. In this case, literally from top 10 application in the universe was occupied to TikTok on seven ranks between 2010-2019 and highest rating internationally for downloading in Google Play and Apple (Ipan et al. 2020). Also, the truth supported with the data 40 million users made TikTok one of the most influential domestic social media applications in 2019. That shows that the learning phenomenon during the use of TikTok has potency to contribute in learning English.

The time before COVID-19, speaking skill was taught by teacher directly by repetition and imitation drills. It employs a traditional method since it had not used a social media before pandemic. Recently, along doing online teaching learning, teacher should develop a learning media to reach goals of the curriculum by mastering a technology/online media, meanwhile students assumed that technology is the one useful and more effective along that time to being their assistance to study. Moreover, by using mobile phone can help to understand material that teacher delivered as a lesson of the day and student find a new variation content on TikTok especially about learning English and focus on speaking skill. Furthermore, self-motivation also makes a readiness to keep learning through that application because it’s focused on the behavioral aspect and established an estimate then when do people feel good about themselves (Abeer Alsadoon et, al. 2016).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, TikTok came and became something that boomed instantly. We found many variations of content there. Starting from music content, tutorials, tricks, and tips, educational, etc. including the use of TikTok in learning English, if we talk about the instructional aspect, TikTok is a video-based medium. Videos can make students feel more realistic. Students can watch acts and hear to the language within the video. They can catch material clearly. In additions, for millennials especially students in this case, learning English using TikTok feels more fun because their learning duration in not too long. In line with this, according to Xiuwen and Razali (2021) argues that the TikTok application has potential benefits for students in learning languages. TikTok as a place for students to make a short video to practice speaking skills. Also, students can watch videos short English from native speakers. So that students can learn and correct their own abilities. To get more enthusiastic student in learning, use TikTok video is one of the best choices.

According to Santaga and Guarino (2011) the use of videos in learning English has benefits. The benefits of video media such us; First, get more interactive and interesting in learning. Second, can efficiency the time and energy. To make every video learning, teacher not need a long time. Therefore, video TikTok can save energy and efficiency of time. Next, anywhere, and anytime, learning can be done without the problem. Learning English can be done anywhere such as in school, at home, or everywhere that students want to learn. Based the explanation above, it can be concluded that using TikTok video can be a solution to student
learning problems. The researcher is interested about student’s perception of TikTok as a learning speaking.

Speaking is one of language skills mean as an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving, and processing information. The information is shared verbally and nonverbally in variety of contexts in which it occurs based on the existence of participants with their collective experiences, the physical environments, and the speaking purpose (Chaney and Burke, 1998). Speakers as encoders can communicate and express their ideas, thoughts, feelings, and needs in order to make sense of hearers to decode message. In this case, the skills of speaking are needed namely accuracy, fluency, and comprehensibility (Heaton, 1989). Further, Heaton pointed out that the accuracy concerns on vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation as the components of how students can use the right words in the in the correct sequence of utterance and produce clear pronunciation. Then, the fluency deals with the ability of speakers to speak fluently and accurately to express their ideas.

As Gupta and Bashir stated, there were four main purposes for using social media applications, which are entertainment, socialization, information and academic (Yang 2020). Resulting from educators’ practice of introducing social media applications into language teaching and learning context to improve learners’ language proficiency, “academic” has gradually become a main factor. Take TikTok as an example, language-learning videos ranked second among the most popular knowledge-sharing videos in 2019. In fact, students have explored the effects of utilization of TikTok to support their speaking English skills and proficiency. As this regard, many students argued social media as the media in learning speaking. Thus, this study aims to determine students’ perceptions of the use of TikTok application for helping their ability to speak English.

LITERATURE REVIEW

To make a clear analysis, the researchers use another research study dealing with our topic. The researchers present studies that correlate to this research based on the several of previous research related to this research.

The first studies are an article entitled “Utilizing TikTok Application as Media for Learning English Pronunciation” from Anggi E Pratiwi, Naura N Ufairah and Riska S Sopiah in 2021 is carried out to find how much work that application to assist student in English pronunciation skill. The study was used qualitative method trying to know the depth information, description, and some picture on how students in using TikTok application. Also, subject of this study was the university's English education student Suryakancana. The data collections device was done with observation and questionnaire. The data in this study was analyzed by qualitative, so that researchers can get more detailed information about everything related to the use of the TikTok application in learning English pronunciation. The data analysis follows an interactive model from Miles and Huberman, weaving: data reduction, display data, and verification of data and prediction. The result was positive that students practiced to duet some English video explanation which is learn about how to pronounce something well.

The second topic is from Zaitun, Muhammad Sofian Hadi, and Dwi Indriyani, journal of teacher studies and learning 2021, vol.4 No.1 “TikTok as a Media to Enhancing the Speaking Skills of EFL Student’s” in 2021. The purpose of this research is to determine of using TikTok as
a learning media to enhancing speaking skills during pandemic COVID-19, especially in speaking English with storytelling. Researchers wants to know how the student’s perspective in using TikTok as their English learning medium. How TikTok can affect their speaking skills. The research is using qualitative method. The subject of the research was from classroom action research from class VII H students of SMP Negeri 164 Jakarta. The procedures of collecting data are as follow: observation, test, and questionnaire.

The last studies are the research from Abu Bakar Razali and Zhai Xiuwen in 2021 “An Overview of the Utilization of TikTok to Improve Oral English Communication Competence among EFL Undergraduate Students”, shows that the application of TikTok in English language communication has beneficial potentials to improve young learners English speaking. It is obvious that the utilization of TikTok could help make the English language communication learning activity more dynamic and entertain. This research also described TikTok is a platform with short videos which could be regarded as one of the most significant and effective learning resources in the modern digital world in English language education area. Then, the author view three steps of innovative teaching procedures such as familiarization, watching authentic samples, making self-recorded videos using English language communication. Therefore, this research has similarities with our research about the TikTok as application that can improve students speaking skill. But it’s just more emphasize with EFL young learners than our research which is more inclined towards English students.

Here are the problems that makes researchers have done this study:

1. How importance is the TikTok in improving students’ speaking skill?
2. How are the students’ perception about TikTok as an English learning media?
3. What are the problems that the students face when using TikTok application?

This study aimed to know how students’ perception as a user in media for learning English especially in improve their speaking skill, and in result of study researchers show that TikTok application as a learning medium very significant to use in order to learn English.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

This research used qualitative method and descriptive technique approach. Qualitative is research which involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data (e.g., text, video, or audio) to understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. However, while inform of this result sometimes would not so perfect because qualitative descriptive is timing-form or data can change as time running. It can be used to gather in-depth insights into a problem or generate new ideas for research. Qualitative research is the opposite of quantitative research, which involves collecting and analyzing numerical data for statistical analysis. Qualitative research is commonly used in the humanities and social sciences, in subjects such as anthropology, sociology, education, health sciences, history, etc. so there need to have some descriptions for informing the result clearly.

**DATA COLLECTION**

Data was collected from several related kinds of literature about the using of TikTok application to students, information relating how to the use of videos on TikTok is also collected through interview, literature review, and questionnaire. Each of them was taken the sample about 20
students of 4 English Education Students at UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto randomly. For questionnaire is consisted about 10 questions that share on google form and should answer according to their experience as a user, then for the interview given 10 questions and several open-question as addition to get a lot of perspective about learning speaking through TikTok application. At least, researchers completed the finding by doing some literature review about previous studies in same focuses on TikTok utilizing for evidence reader that TikTok is suitable to learn languages especially in English.

DATA ANALYSIS

The data analyze by qualitative descriptive and explained in detail from the students based on the statement they given. Furthermore, researchers perhaps show some disagreement of the utilizing TikTok as a medium for learning speaking if any. Literally, in this qualitative descriptive sometimes there are inappropriate between expectation and reality data that get from filed-notes. So that, big possibility thing commonly comes out in the result. The researchers make a conclusion about the use of TikTok app as an online assistance for helping students’ in enhance their speaking skills.

FINDINGS

Then, information is presented with narrative descriptive. Finally, some conclusions were drawn to prove what a meaningful way of TikTok videos as a media in learning speaking.

I. Questionnaire

A questionnaire is a research tool that consists of a set of questions or other forms of prompts designed to gather data from a respondent. A typical research questionnaire has a combination of closed-ended and open-ended questions. Long-form, open-ended inquiries allow the reply to elaborate on their opinions. The Statistical Society of London created research questionnaires in 1838. The information gathered from a data gathering questionnaire could be qualitative or quantitative. A questionnaire might be provided in the form of a survey or not, but a survey must always include a questionnaire.

In this research, also use questionnaire to collect data respondents which consist 10 questions and 3 options of answer (agree, strongly agree, and disagree). Then, show up the result with generalization from all of respondent’s response.

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<th>Number</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Your interest level as a user of TikTok is increase during Pandemic COVID-19 was coming in the first of 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>You are scrolling TikTok English learning Video of vocabulary and its pronouciation in almost everyday.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Watching so many English vocabulary and its pronouciation video on TikTok are easy to addict for using that application in a long time.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Do you agree that TikTok videos help your English pronunciation?</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Do you agree that learning English using TikTok application is effective?</td>
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6. Learning English by TikTok videos are such interesting learning strategy.

7. You are trying to practice based on speaker or content do, almost in all the time While watching on English learning Video on Tiktok.

8. Do you agree that English TikTok videos are more clear in explanation than teacher in classroom?

9. Do you agree that the duration of time in English learning content applied in TikTok are affected to your understanding process?

10. You are interested more in learning by Video conceptually designed than the explanation manually as usual.

TikTok in terms of learning can be very interesting, depending on the person who brings the learning content, if the creators can make it interesting then a lot of people would watch the video and it can even go viral. TikTok can be used and become an effective learning medium during a pandemic for students. Besides TikTok used to get informations to learning English language, especially to learn speaking and pronunciation, because in TikTok, such as those made by English learning content creators, TikTok is also effective for learning when someone can choose what content they may see. The use of TikTok to learn English, make students skills improved, especially in speaking and pronunciation skill. Most of students open TikTok application approximately 2-3 hours per day, including watching, understanding process and practice. It is very interesting because many people who created English content creators learn directly from native speakers. While studying with TikTok, some obstacles may occur. Such as technical problems and so on. The short duration of learning English in TikTok also affects students’ understanding. Students may feel that, this is not enough to support their mastery of understanding. They think that more extensive explanation of the material is needed. The use of TikTok for searching information At first it was just for entertainment. However, at that time most students got a channel where the channel taught a lot about English and I was a little interested in it. So, the Students feel it can make it easier to learn a language, as a medium to get updated information and news because in the TikTok application to get information it is very fast, and it can be used for learning too although maybe some people think it's trivial, but in my opinion learning a language for example through TikTok is a new thing so there are other variations in learning, so that maybe it can eliminate boredom and can foster a spirit of learning as well and reduce the use of social media that is not useful. In the video, the students usually taught or exemplified, for example, how to pronounce a vocab correctly, well there we can imitate the pronunciation. So, even if little by little in learning it at least it helps the student every time during learning process.

II. Literature review

The first study is from Anggi E Pratiwi, Naura N Ufairah, and Riska S Sopiah published a paper in 2021 named "Utilizing TikTok App as Media in Learning English Pronunciation" to see how much work that application can help the students with their English pronunciation skills. The study employed a qualitative approach in order to have a better comprehension of the in-depth information, description, and picture of how students utilize the TikTok application. Suryakancana, a university English education student, was also the topic of this research. A total of 8 (eight) people responded, with five (5) regular class students and three (3) non-regular class
students. The data was gathered by observation and a questionnaire. The data in this study was analyzed qualitatively so that the researchers could learn more about it.

The second topic comes from Zaitun, Muhammad Sofian Hadi, and Dwi Indriyani’s article "TikTok as a Media to Enhancing the Speaking Skills of EFL Students" in the journal of teacher studies and learning 2021, vol.4 No.1. The goal of this study is to see if using TikTok as a learning medium may help people improve their speaking abilities during the COVID-19 epidemic, particularly when it comes to storytelling in English. The researchers interested to know how students feel about using TikTok as an English learning tool. The study employs a qualitative approach. The research was based on classroom action research conducted with students from SMP Negeri 164 Jakarta's class VII H. The following are the data collection procedures: observation, test, and questionnaire.

The most recent study, "An Overview of the Utilization of TikTok to Improve Oral English Communication Competence among EFL Undergraduate Students," by Abu Bakar Razali and Zhai Xiuwen in 2021, shows that the use of TikTok in English language communication has beneficial potentials for improving young learners' English speaking. TikTok is a platform with short videos that might be considered one of the most significant and successful learning resources in the modern digital world in the English language education area, according to this study.

III. Interview

In this research, for the last technique of collection data also use interview from 20 students’ class TBI A, B, and C of UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto. Then, do the generalization for making clear decision of the study.

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Are you a TikTok app user? Please state what do you use the TikTok app for?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Why do you use TikTok for learning?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>What are the benefits of the TikTok app for you?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>How does TikTok videos help your pronunciation?</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>What problem did you face when using TikTok?</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>How your pronunciation and speaking skill after using TikTok?</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Does the English learning use TikTok app effective?</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>How much time you open TikTok for learning English?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>What’s your opinion about the English content in TikTok so far?</td>
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1. “Yes, I am a TikTok user. I use that app because its commonly used by people, such as interesting and entertainment. “Moreover, TikTok content give us more updated information and knowledge, for example is about mental health, English etc.”

2. “Why I use TikTok app is just because that’s kind an interesting and great content. After time goes, I think this application has advantages for improve my English especially in speaking.
Also, videos content on TikTok has a great editing sense that won’t make users boring and understandable while watch it. Just scroll the screen you know”

3. “The benefits of TikTok app are there are implementation things from content videos in daily life. For instance, trying to speak with other people in real life or collaboration between two people in that content, do some sport and anything, also we got a lot of motivation or good mood when we have a bad day. Things I like the most is TikTok videos provided all thing we need, for example like we type keyword or material that want to learn.”

4. “There is specific content material about vocabulary for 10 seconds in common, it comes out how to pronounce that word. So, we follow what the way of it indirectly. In the other hand, achievement level of increasing Speaking competence is depending on our awareness to do practice or not. “

5. “The problem commonly faces when use TikTok is sometimes bad internet connection so that it takes too long for videos, also not every single time fyp (for your page) always display the English content, but another videos. Also, when I do my speaking duet practice, I feel like none of can evaluate my pronunciation. So, I think there is a mistaken in me pronounce sometimes. Moreover, it comes so hard if there are no subtitles.”

6. “My speaking and pronunciation skill grows after watch TikTok videos, it has many English material to explain. My pronounce is better, although not with my fluent and being self-confidence. The content creator is general from artist, student, teacher, English course, etc. and we can learn a whole four basic skills in English and another information like; culture, current issues, and everything in life.”

7. “TikTok app is effective for being a media in learning English, especially while this pandemic era which people are doing anything from home. Automatically, they have time with mobile phone. Watch TikTok videos can named as both play and learn because interest and easy to understand. Also, many English videos which learn grammar, daily phrase, common vocabulary instead of speaking.”

8. “I don’t know the specific time in open TikTok. However, I usually watch TikTok videos in evening, in morning of weekend or just I feel bored and need something funny to watch. Also, it depends on content creator skill how to engage the users, if the content interesting, I almost use it for an hour or more, but it is only 30 minutes for none of something interest.”

9. “I think TikTok still a great media for learning English, interesting apps and easily to understand with content creator, editing and suit material is one of the perfect full videos to display. Furthermore, content creator is good in attract people’s attention with what content they bring. So, many benefit that can we get in order to increase our knowledge. Hopefully, English content on TikTok can increase as many another contents.”

DISCUSSIONS

The TikTok application provides many positive benefits for users. In this study, students believe that TikTok is interesting. Moreover, TikTok is useful for update information and increasing knowledge. Such as mental health, English, and others. In line with Zhan Yiming (2016) which states that TikTok is a social media as a learning media that has many users, complete and diverse features. Not only that, the content contained in it also varies.

The relevant study written by Anggie E Pratiwi and friends also has the same explanation as the respondent regarding about effectiveness of TikTok in learning English. In the seventh answer, respondents feel that TikTok is important to use as a medium for learning English,
especially in speaking skills. In this first relevant study also explain the use of TikTok which is used in learning English speaking skills which refers more to pronunciation. Besides that, in accordance with the respondent’s answer to the seventh question regarding the effectiveness of TikTok in learning English, a study of Zaitun Muhammad Sofian Hadi and Dwi Indriyani also explained that TikTok is an easy medium to use in learning English, especially in the pandemic era. In addition, in the third previous study written by Abu Bakar Razali and Zhai Xiuwen, the respondents answers about TikTok are also the most popular social media because it offers a lot of interesting content regarding English communication competence during COVID-19.

The last study which written by Zaitun Muhammad Sofian Hadi and Dwi Indriyani state the usefulness of the TikTok application which can increase students’ confidence in speaking English. There has correlation about the respondent answer of the last question. The correlation between the respondents last answers in this study also placed in the statement about TikTok which can upload videos with various editing features so that in can attract the interesting of people to watch it. Therefore, there are many benefits from TikTok to increase knowledge, as well as adopting technology.

CONCLUSION

Based on the result of research, its crucial to discuss about how does TikTok application affect English learners in improving their speaking skill by watch and imitate some videos. The existence of that application is fast spread during pandemic COVID-19 for bring alternative tools of media getting a lot of information. Commonly humans are crazy of using TikTok because they assumed that its similar between offline and online within study English so through mobile phone and doing scrool screen easily wherevere and whenever. TikTok is social media that is used as a learning medium because it has many users, complete features and a variety content in it. The aim of this research is knowing how learning English using TikTok can affect speaking skills. Subject of this study is 20 students of 4 English Education Students at UIN Prof. KH. Saifuddin Zuhri Purwokerto randomly. The researcher choose these students considering that the TikTok application was widely used as a medium for many things. Then the respondent is the people who are interested in using the application. The data collection device was done with interview, literature review, and questionnaire. The data in this study was analyzed by qualitative descriptive, so that researchers can get more detailed information about everything related to the use of the TikTok application in learning English for speaking skills. The data analyze by qualitative descriptive and explained in detail from the students based on the statement they given. Furthermore, researchers perhaps show some disagreement of the utilizing TikTok as a medium for learning speaking if any. Literally, in this qualitative descriptive sometimes there are inappropriate between expectation and reality data that get from filed-notes. So that, big possibility thing commonly comes out in the result. In collecting data, the writer uses interview and quistionnare. There is a result that learning English speaking skills through TikTok application in Pandemi COVID-19 is the best solution. The use of TikTok application is very influential because this application is useful and provides benefits to make learning fun and more easy, they can watch interesting video that which has been provided easily and also they can find out what is happening in the world easily by using TikTok application. From the answers that have been giving from respondents, many of them have improved their speaking skills and the other hand, some have not improved all because they are not TikTok users. Therefore, it can be concluded that TikTok application can be used as a learning medium for learning English
speaking skills in Pandemic COVID-19 because it has many benefits and is effective in helping students and teachers in teaching and learning activities.

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