

**DUOLINGO APPLICATION ON STUDENTS' PRONUNCIATION ABILITY**

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Abstract

The purpose of this research is to find out the effect of DuoLingo application on students' pronunciation ability. This research is using quantitative method. The data is obtained from some tests in the form of pre-test and post-test. The average score of pre test from experimental class is 15,694 and the control class is 14,417. After getting the treatment of DuoLingo application, the average score of experimental class increases become 18,944. While the control class average score which is not getting any treatment increases become 16,305. The result of T – test also showed that the average post test score of the experimental class who get treatment is higher than the control class who does not get any treatment. It shows that the use of DuoLingo application affected the students' pronunciation ability.

Keywords : DuoLingo application; Pronunciation

Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui pengaruh dari aplikasi DuoLingo terhadap kemampuan pengucapan siswa. Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kuantitatif. Data pada penelitian ini didapat melalui pre test dan post test. Rata – rata skor pre test dari kelas eksperimen adalah 15,694 dan dari kelas control adalah 14,417. Setelah mendapatkan pembelajaran menggunakan aplikasi DuoLingo, skor rata – rata dari kelas experiment meningkat menjadi 18,944. Sedangkan skor rata – rata kelas control yang tidak diberikan pembelajaran dengan DuoLingo meningkat sedikit menjadi 16,305. Hasil dari T- test juga menunjukkan bahwa skor rata – rata post test dari kelas experiment lebih tinggi daripada kelas control. Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa penggunaan aplikasi DuoLingo berpengaruh terhadap kemampuan pengucapan siswa di kelas X SMA N 2 Rantau Utara.

Kata kunci : Aplikasi DuoLingo; Pengucapan

I. PENDAHULUAN

Pronunciation is one of the most important thing to learn when we talk about speaking skill. Pronunciation is

also considered as sub-skill in learning English. If we are not able to pronounce some words in proper way, the misunderstanding

things will be happened and it will ruin the communication.

Pronunciation refers to how we produce the sound that we use to make meaning when we speak (Yates, 2009). It includes the particular consonants and vowels of a language (segments), aspects of speech beyond the level of individual segments, such as stress, timing, rhythm, intonation, phrasing (suprasegmental aspect) and how the voice is projected (voice quality). Pronunciation plays an important role in understanding. Mispronouncing a single sound causes the listener's misunderstanding.

There are number of students who are not able to pronounce a word in proper way, such as in SMA N 2 RANTAU UTARA, on grade X MIA 1 and grade X MIA 2. It causes the misunderstanding communication among them. However, student still often finds some difficulties to pronounce a word in proper way. It is because student does not get the suitable method to learn about pronunciation.

One of the most efficient way to learn pronunciation is taking an online learning by using application on smartphone. Nowadays, so many applications are developed to make it easier for students to learn. The applications

also using interesting features so that the students will not feel bored when they study.

Duolingo is a language learning app created by Luis Von and Severin Hacker in 2011 with the goal of providing free education to the world. It is also considered with world's most popular language learning platform and most downloaded educational app, with over 500 million users. The company's mission is to make education free, fun, and available worldwide. Duolingo is designed to feel like a game and has been scientifically proven to be effective.

Duolingo provides four skills of English that are listening, speaking, reading and writing. By learning listening and speaking skill, the learners can learn about pronunciation as well. It because Duolingo provides speaking session, which is the learners can imitate what has been spoken in the speaking session, so that the learners' pronunciation can be sharpened.

There are some researchs that discussed DuoLinggo on English learning. One of them is (Utami, 2020) in her research Students' Perception on The Use of DuoLingo as a Language Learning Application for Learning English. The finding shows that almost all of the students gave positive

response on their experience of using DuoLingo application. Because it helped students so much in learning and understanding about English. DuoLingo makes students easily to know the vocabulary, easy to memorize the vocabulary, better in pronunciation, and also grammatical rule. The research above is related with my research, because both researches are using DuoLingo application as a media to learn English.

(Mahmudah, 2015) in her research Analysis of Pronunciation Exercises in DuoLingo Application and Its Contribution as English Learning Media found that the result of pronunciation exercises in DuoLingo application have been resumed in five point, those are the aims of the exercises, the types of the exercises, the appropriateness with the materials, the strengths and the weakness of pronunciation exercises, and the involved language skills. The students can increase knowledge particularly in understanding pronunciation exercises by knowing the aims, characteristics and appropriateness, they can apply their knowledge in the appropriate daily conversation. In this research, there is a relatable variable with my research, that is DuoLingo application and pronunciation. So, basically, the object that will be discuss will

not have big differences and it can help the researcher to make research.

Based on the description above, the researchers are interested in doing research about that under the title The Effect of DuoLingo Application on Students' Pronunciation Ability at SMA N 2 Rantau Utara. The formulation of problem is, Is there any effect of DuoLingo application on students' pronunciation ability? In line with the formulation of the problem, the purpose of this research is to find out the effect of DuoLingo application on students' pronunciation ability.

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

a. PRONUNCIATION

Pronunciation is one of sub - skill in learning English language. Pronunciation is defined as the way in which language is spoken (Hornby, 2008). Pronunciation is the production of sounds that is used for making meaning (Pourhosein Gilakjani, 2016). Pronunciation is the production of a sound system which does not interfere with communication either from the speakers' or the listeners' viewpoint, (Paulston, C. B., & Burder, 1976). This means that pronunciation may not be say in wrong way, because it can

short vowels consist of /ɪ/, /e/, /æ/, /ə/, /ʌ /,
/ʊ/, /ɔ/.

Monophthong Sounds

NO	SIMBOL	ILUSTRASI	KATA	ARTI
1	/æ/	Seperti suara "Mbeek"	Bag	Tas
2	/e/	Bebek	Beg	Memohon
3	/ɔ:/	Botol	Tall	Tinggi
4	/ɒ/	Bolot	Lot	Bnayak
5	/ɑ:/	Kapak	Park	Taman
6	/ʌ/	Asap	But	Tetpi
7	/ɜ:/	Brebes	Burst	Ledakan
8	/ə/	Kemana	About	Dahulu
9	/i:/	Bibit	Beat	Memukul
10	/l/	Lele	Lick	Jilat
11	/u:/	Susun	Soon	Segera
12	/ʊ/	Foto	Took	Mengambil

Diphthong Sounds

No	Simbol	Ilustrasi Pengucapan	Contoh Kata	Arti
1	/ei/	Hei	Late	Telat
2	/ai/	Lebai/Alai	Guy	Pria
3	/ɔi/	Amboi	Boy	Laki-laki
4	/la/	Kadié	tear	Air mata
5	/ea/	Ceker	Care	Peduli
6	/ʊə/	Terbentur	Tour	Berpergian
7	/aʊ/	Bakauheni	Cow	Sapi
8	/əʊ/	Bego	Go	Pergi

The term consonant is negatively defined, that is, sounds which are not vowels. There are 24 consonants in English, those are: p, b, t, d, k, g, f, v, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, ʧ, ʤ, θ, ð, m, n, ŋ, h, i, r, w, and j.

Suprasegmental feature is a speech feature such as stress, tone, or word juncture that is added over consonants and vowels. The effect of suprasegmental is easy to recognize. When we are talking to a cat, a dog, or a baby, or asking a question, we may adopt a particular set of suprasegmental. Usually, when we are doing this, people adopt a different voice quality, stressed and change the way sound is produced. It may be softer, harder, higher, lower and another way. Suprasegmental features indeed influence pronunciation. While speaking, we have to use the appropriate suprasegmental rules. If we do not do this, our words will be meaningless or even occur misinterpretation from the listener.

b. DUOLINGO

Duolingo is designed to feel like a game and has been scientifically proven to be effective (sources available in English). In addition to its core platform, it has Duolingo English Test, a language certification option that is affordable, easy, and accepted by thousands of institutions.

DuoLingo provides services to the speakers of many languages to English, and English to other languages. Duolingo provides opportunities for face to face interaction in the

learning process. This app is the gamification of modern technology to teach a language unintentionally to the learners while forgetting or negating the traditional mode of teachings.

Duolingo provides four skills of English, those are listening, speaking, reading and writing. By learning listening and speaking skill, the learners can learn about pronunciation as well. It because Duolingo provides speaking session, which is the learners can imitating what has been spoken in the speaking session, so that the learners pronunciation can be sharpened. This study uses Duolingo as a tool to compare the learning of language between two groups, the experiment group, and the traditional (controlled) group.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

a. RESEARCH DESIGN

The research design of this research is quantitative research by using quasi experimental design. Quasi experimental design has two kind of design, they are time series design and nonequivalent control group design (Sugiyono, 2010). This research uses nonequivalent control group design. Before the treatment is given to the samples, the samples that is the experiment class and the control class will be given a test called pre – test. This

pre- test is aimed to know the basic knowledge of the samples before the treatment. After the experiment class and the control class are given the treatment, they will be given a post test to know the result after given the treatment.

Nonequivalent Control Group Design

O₁	X	O₂
O₃		O₄

b. POPULATION AND SAMPLE

Population is a generalization areas that consists of objects or subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics that are determined by the researcher to be studied and the conclusions are made based on interests in the research (Sugiyono, 2012). Population is the whole subjects of the research. Meanwhile, sample is the smaller object of research that chosen from the population.

This research will have the X Grade of Natural Science (MIA) class as the population. There are four classes of natural science major in SMA N 2 Rantau Utara. They are X MIA 1 which consists of 36 students, X MIA 2 which consist of 36 students, X MIA 3 which consists of 36 students, and X MIA 4 which consists of 36 students.

Population

No	Education Level	Male	Female	Total
1.	X MIA 1	14	22	36
2.	X MIA 2	13	23	36
3.	X MIA 3	15	21	36
4.	X MIA 4	20	16	36
Total		62	82	144

This research will use a purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling technique is nonrandom technique, it need to be considered and sets out to find out the people who can and be willing to give the information by knowledge or experience. The sample of this research is X MIA 1 and X MIA 2.

c. TECHNIQUE OF DATA COLLECTION

This research consists of two techniques of data collection, test and documentation.

Validity test is used to examine the feasibility of a test that will be given to the sample. Validity is an assessment tool that must really measure what you want to measure (Hamalik, 2005). The formula to find out the validity of a measuring instrument according to Pearson Product Moment. The formula to test the reliability according to Cronbach's Alpha.

d. TECHNIQUE OF ANALYSIS DATA

The technique of analysis data used in this research is by using T-test. T-test is the temporary answer of formulation of the problem, that is talking about the relation between two variable or more (Sugiyono, 2018). So, when we get the result of T-test, we will get the general description of formulation of problem. The formulation to find the value of T-test is :

$$t = \frac{r\sqrt{N-2}}{\sqrt{1-r^2}}$$

IV. HASIL PENELITIAN

The data is obtained from some tests in the form of pre-test and post-test. The researcher uses the same questions for pre – test and post – test in order to get the clear and significance different and comparison to students' pronunciation ability. The tests are given to two classes which are experimental and control class. The experimental class is grade X Mia 2, while the control class is grade X Mia 1. Both of the classes were given same pre – test and post – test, but in experimental class, the researcher gives different treatment by using DuoLingo application through Audio Lingual Method.

To get the value of the test, the researcher using scoring data technique. The scores of pre – test and post – test will show the effect of DuoLingo application on students' pronunciation ability. Before doing the treatment, the researcher collect the data by using validity test, reliability test. The validity test is tested to grade X Mia 4 of SMA N 2 Rantau Utara. Number of the student (N) is 36, while the $\alpha = 0.05$ (5%) and gives the r table = 0.3291. There are 30 questions which are in multiple choice form in the validity test. The criteria is, if rxy is more than r table ($r_{xy} > r$ table), it means that the question is valid. Otherwise, if rxy is less than r table ($r_{xy} < r$ table), it means that the question is invalid.

Based on the validity test and the calculation of the validity, the researcher get 25 questions are valid and 5 questions are invalid. The criteria of reliability coefficient is 0.60. It means that the data is reliable and including to very high value. T test result shows the effect of DuoLingo application. If the result of t test (t count) is bigger than minus of t table and smaller than t table, then H_0 is accepted, there is no effect that appears after doing the treatment. Otherwise, if/ t count is not fill between minus of t table and t table, then H_1 is accepted, it means there is an effect

causes by using the treatment to experimental class. In the t test, the researcher finds that the t count = -6,267, while the t table = 1,994, then the $-t$ table = - 1,994. Based on this calculation, so H_a is accepted.

Tcount and Ttable

Tcount	-6,267	-Ttable < Tcount < Ttable -1,994 < -6,267 < 1,994
Ttable	1,994	H_a : Accepted

From the table above, it is found there is an effect of DuoLingo on students' pronunciation ability.

V.KESIMPULAN

Based on the result of the research, it proves that DuoLingo application affects on students' pronunciation ability with t count = - 6,267, while the t table = 1,994, then the $-t$ table = - 1,994. DuoLingo application is trusted to help students in learning pronunciation for saying words in proper way. The students become more enjoy and interested to learn at the class because the application is more like a game and the students do not feel any pressure while learning. The students have more chances to practice about pronunciation anytime and anywhere.

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