STUDENTS' PERCEPTION TOWARD MEMRISE APPLICATION AS MEDIA INLEARNING VOCABULARY

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Abstract

The objective of this study is to find out and describe about students' perception toward Memrise application as Media in Learning Vocabulary at seventh grade school SMP N 62 BATAM. The participants are students at VII grade of SMP N 62 BATAM. This research is prepared based on field data using Qualitative research. Method data collection in this research was conducted by using questionnaire and interview. As for the data analysis technique, the researcher used data reduction, data display, and conclusion. The finding is students' perception toward Memrise application as Media in Learning Vocabulary get positive perception and can help improve vocabulary mastery for English lesson. Memrise application gives so many benefits for the students. Beside this application easily to operate, Memrise application also has interesting feature. The lesson material from Memrise application is easy to understand by students and through Memrise application, students have more spirit to learn vocabulary in English and their phone is not only for playing game but they can use it for study.

Keywords: *Media in Learning Vocabulary, Memrise Application, Students' Perception*

INTRODUCTION

Language is a conversation tool used by humans to convey messages, intentions and information. For this reason, language is very much needed by humans in everyday life. Beside from the first language obtained from each family, currently English is a language that must also be understood because English is an international language that almost the whole world uses it. According to Graddol (2006), English language finds the self at the center of the paradoxes which arise from globalization. By understanding English, there will be many benefits for life, including: able to speak and create connection with the people abroad, students have the new knowledge and can understand new expression, and English language is used everywhere such as in food, medicine, airport, newspaper, book, magazine, women accessories, branded cloths and others.

Nowadays almost all people around the world use phone in daily life, include the students also have phone in their home. It can be seen that students in this era always use phone for playing game, watching film, listening their favorite music and talking each other with their friends. So, from this situation, the teacher can introduce Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary. The teacher must be active to make interest situation for students so that they have more spirit

and diligent to learn although using phone.

Many students in SMP N 62 Batam are still lack in understanding English. This is due to lack of vocabulary, and how to pronounce words that are difficult for them to understand. Moreover, they state that English is very difficult and they do not like English lessons, in addition to difficult material, the learning style is flat. Therefore, using media for learning vocabulary is a good way to make a new learning style for a better result for students. This study aims to know students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary in the seventh-grade students of SMP N 62 Batam in academic year 2021/2022.

Perception

Perception is the way of someone to express an opinion, or give value for something that has been seen, use, or done. According to Robbins and Judge (as cited in Khanifah, Isgiyarta, Lestari & Udin, 2019), perception refers to understanding or responding something begins from sense then move to brain as guideline to value. And it can be concluded that perception is the way students interpret and understand of what are felt; the stage starting from collecting, recognizing and interpreting information obtained. Furthermore, the seven component that influence a person perception according to Toha (as cited in Mulyana, 2020) are Feeling, Learning process, Expectation, Attitude, Attention, Interest and Motivation.

Media in Learning Vocabulary

Media is a way of digital information used by humans to provide and find information for daily life. According to Arsyad (2011), Media are the messages arbiter or companion from the sender to the collector. This implies that any device almost instructive message incorporates as the media of instruction of learning. There are some benefits of learning by using media, those are: the students more enjoyable in learning, the lesson delivered by teacher be more standardized, the outcome of learning quality improves, learning can be more interesting, changing role learner be positive one, and time learning is shortened. Some types of media are television, computer, laptop, handphone, radio and recording.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary means all the words in a particular language that an individual knows or uses to communicate effectively. Vocabulary is basic important aspect for learning English by learners. By mastering vocabulary, they are able to

communicate both orally and written well. Also, by having a lot of vocabulary the learners are hoped to master four skills in English, such as reading, writing, listening and speaking. According to Hornby (2006), vocabulary is all the words that a personknows or uses and it is all the words in a particular language.

Memrise Application

Memrise application is an educational language application program which can be applied by downloading it in smart phone or laptop in google play. According to Hamer (2021), "Memrise application is an educational program that helps students master language by combining flashcard with the mnemonics technique to teach foreign language andmemorize knowledge." Through Memrise application students get some benefit such as Memrise is free, very easy to operate, colourful layout. Students learn by playing because Memrise provides task with the introduction and give the score in task, and students can create the target so that they will be more exiting in learning by Memrise application. Thedisadvantage of Memrise is difficult to use if there is no internet connection. To usethis application in classroom, teacher must use infocus and loudspeaker so that it will be easy for students and needs more time for preparation.

Steps of using Memrise application are log in page of Memrise, click "get started" to start using Memrise. Next choose language; in this page, students choose "I speak Bahasa Indonesia" and want to "Learning English". Then, in Memrise, sign up students must choose which level they want to use and sign up with Google or Facebook account. The next is in pronouncing section. The first one is students choose "English language 1" and Memrise will display the native speaker saying aword. After that, "Next" will appear. The speaker and students can listen and try how to pronounce the word. So, in this page, students will know how to pronounce word, daily goal. In this slide, students can choose the daily goal of words mastery. So, by this goal, the students are more excited to complete the assignment. The course from this picture is the students can choose which course will be taken, and click the "continue learning" for taking the course.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher used qualitative descriptive. This study aimed to find students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary in the seventh grade in SMP N 62 Batam. Ary, Jacobs, & Razavieh (2002) state

that qualitative research is to obtain information about the status of the current phenomenon. The data collection techniques used by the researcher were questionnaire and interview. In questionnaire, the researcher provided 21 questions to get the students opinion about Memrise application. To strengthen the answers from students, the researcher gave five questions in interview. In order for research to be more accurate, the researcher took photo of the students and video recording during the interview. In data analysis technique, the researcher used Miles and Hubermen's method namely data reduction, data display, and conclusion (Sugiyono, 2011). In this study, the researcher used the qualitative research as research design. The procedures of collecting data are presented below:

1. **Validity Test**

According to Gay (2000, p.161), "Validity is the most important characteristics of the test or measuring instrument can process." In this case, the researcher used questionnaire in collecting the data. Validity is the extent to which differences found with a measuring instrument reflects true differences among those being tested.

a. Item validity

According to Creswell (2012, p.618), item validity is the extent to which the item questions on the instrument and the sources from these questions are representative of all the possible questions that could be asked about the content or skills. It means that instrument of the test has to be appropriate from subject learning and content in skill learning. According to Kothari (2004, p.74), "item validity is the extent to which a measuring instrument provides contains a representative sample of the universe, the content validity is good." The researcher used Pearson Product Moment to measure validity of questionnaire.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The researcher got the use of Memrise application as media in vocabulary byusing questionnaire and interview which were measured by seven components of factors that influence perception; they are Feeling, Learning process, Expectation, Attitude, Attention, Interest and motivation. The result of Feeling component in questionnaire and interview can be categorized in moderate rank. The respondents stated that English is important to fulfil the needs of today, they

also felt that being good in English helping them studying others subject well. Besides that, if the respondent knew that their friends' score in English is higher, they will study harder even though English is difficult. It was supported by the respondents' statement: English is important for the future, if students want to go abroad, they must use English language for communication with foreign people. So, from the statement from the respondents, they felt happy being introduced to Memrise application which gives them a newway to learn more and increase their English vocabulary sothat they can achieve their purpose in learning English. It is because if the respondents have many vocabularies, it will make easier for them in learning English.

The second is learning process for getting the best result from the students. To make them enjoy and comfortable during learning, the researcher found out that the students like to use Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary by using Memrise application. They were not bored in using Memrise and they also got a lot of material such as arrange words to sentences, learn more about opinion, learn about the family tree, learn more about adjective, the name of the day etc. Moreover, they also got challenge to build their comprehension, so the respondents stated that using media in learning process is important so they can be more exciting, can easily know the lesson, and not be bored in learning English. The second interview question is about reason. The reason means statement from someone to strengthen the answer from a question. Positive reason means about the explanation of an advantage from question, while negative reason means that they feel hard to do and not get advantage. Based on question interview number two about the reason whether English is difficult or not, it is related to six students' statements that English is not difficult and the reason are able to use media and dictionary for learning English. They also state if they are diligent to practice and learn they will not feel hard. On the other hand, fourteen students states that English is difficult to learn, from the explanation they feel difficult to complete the lesson, and the reason are students are lack of understanding in vocabulary, students do not understand meaning, English is not their daily language, and the students are lack of understanding in pronunciation. So, in this question the students perceive negatively.

The third is Expectation component. It explains about someone's hope. In this component, the expectation from respondents is positive because Memrise

application always give the explanation the way before giving task, so it can be ascertained that the respondent feel enjoy in using this application. They will not be confused because there is an explanation of how to do the exercises or in other words examples how to do the exercise in every material in this application. Thus, when the respondents understand the explanation before doing the task in this application, they will be happy and excited to do the task in this application. Through doing the task, their comprehension and vocabulary will be increase and the respondents are happy to use the Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary.

The fourth is Attitude component, by attitude, the feeling or emotional was reflected by the respondents. The respondents state that the explanation provide by the Memrise application is easily understood by the respondents. It supports with their answers in interview that the use of media in learning vocabulary is important. Therefore, through the media, they can understand easily about the material, easily to know the meaning from the words to make them more exciting. Also, the respondents state that they will like using media such as Memrise in their home by using the phone on computer because this application is easy to use and interesting and so many advantages they get from this application. Furthermore, they use their phone for something better, not only playing game in handphone, but also learning vocabulary by phone.

The fifth, Attention component, one factor that affect the result of a material or subject being studied, someone will understand easily a lesson if they have or pay attention to the lesson. The respondents state in Memrise application they found the difficult word meaning in learning English, and they also try to pronounce the words in English through Memrise application. Every respondent has the various attention such as remember the name of the days, can pronounce words in English, remember the name of the months, increase vocabulary, get the new daily conversation, know to arrange words to be a sentence, learn more about family tree and also word meaning. After respondents collect the difficult word meaning, the respondents find and memorize it, so that they can master vocabulary.

The sixth, Interest component, is the component relates to feeling and curiosity to find something new. In this component, the respondents state that they like learning vocabulary through Memrise application. If someone is interested in

something, it is easy for them to understand something that is being learned, and usually because of this interest, students will often use and repeat the lesson and the application. In interest component, the respondents state that they like daily conversation provided by Memrise application. They interest with Memrise application because by using this application, it likes playing a game but very useful for increasing knowledge and vocabulary in English, also Memrise provide full colour appearance so that make respondents are not bored and they can make challenge for themselves through the score in Memrise application.

The seventh, Motivation, comes from one's self or other people and environment. Besides from one's self, motivation from other people can have a good impact on achievement. In this component, respondents state that their motivation learning English with Memrise application is after using the application, the respondents hope that it will change and improve their knowledge and vocabulary in English. This is because the respondents understand that English is important nowadays, and there will be many advantages that they will get if they understand English. One of them is easy to communicate with foreigners, can use in the future to find a job or can try to continue education abroad.

The analysis of questionnaire and interview shows positive response according to the students. Based on the result of questionnaire and interview, it canbe seen that most of the students' perception give positive response about using Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary. Memrise application has many functions for students. Most of the students get benefit after learning English on Memrise application, because students think that Memrise application improves their English learning and it is easy to understand.

The students' response that Memrise application helps them in learning English. Some students learn about how to pronounce words, write the text, construct word become a sentence, and most the students agree that Memrise application facilitate learning English. In accessing Memrise application, it is not difficult and interesting to use and this application helps students to master language and vocabulary.

CONCLUSION

The aim of this study was to find out students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary. Memrise application is one of the effective media in learning English. It is interest for students as the students showed positive response toward this media; students were easy to understand the material. Having an opportunity to all students to get a fair turn in practicing material, Memrise application can eliminate boredom in learning English and also encourage the students of finding new idea in learning English vocabulary.

The finding of this study showed that students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary is positive perception. It is proven by students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary in using questionnaire. The students showed perception which is important in learning vocabulary and Memrise application is a useful to application in learning vocabulary, The next finding is using interview indicates that the students' perception toward Memrise application as media in learning vocabulary is positive response that Memrise application easy to use and the material and the feature in Memrise easily understanding and students more get motivated to learning vocabulary in English.

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