
The impact of the use social media on EFL student

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of using social media TikTok on EFL students. The subjects in this study are class XII students of SMKN 1 Rangkasbitung in the 2023 academic year that consists of 30 students. This research uses a quantitative approach as a research design. The instrument used is a questionnaire. Google Docs and WhatsApp messages with Google Docs attachments were used by researchers to disseminate questionnaires to the sample. This study uses an interval scale and data collection uses a questionnaire with a Likert scale type. The final results of the questionnaire which consists of 27 questions resulted in an overall score of 70.80% and were categorized as Agree. TikTok can be a useful tool for learning to speak English, especially for EFL students who have limited partners to practice, lack of confidence, and a comfortable environment.

1. INTRODUCTION

Technology has invaded every aspect of our lives, the most vital of which is education, where the teaching-learning process is the prime target. Most modern-day classrooms are innovative in nature, being equipped with a smart-board or a data-show projector. To cope with this sweeping wave of change in educational technology, educators, curriculum designers, and experts in EFL pedagogy have been cognizant of the pressing need for a parallel shift in teaching and testing strategies at all levels of education. (Saed et al., 2021).

As one of impacts of technological enhancement is social media. It has been continuously transforming and updating our everyday life, in terms of information delivery, knowledge exchange, communication, and visual culture (Pikhart & Botezat, 2021). The use of social media in the field of education has undoubtedly brought about many advantages for education stakeholders. Social networking tools are “among the most dominant on the Web today. Through social media, students can do a lot of things. For example, they can contact and make friends with others from every different place, city, and country. As users, students can find some pictures or video about the situation in this world from different countries through social media like Instagram.

In addition, the students can learn the English language from social media. In the EFL context, the use of social media provides some opportunities to develop students' English language skills. For example, TikTok can be used as one of media to be used by students to learn English. TikTok is renowned for its vibrant, interesting, and diverse content, which offers its audience a number of advantages. Additionally, it acts as a good facilitator for the delivery of teaching materials to students.

Educational video media that are included in the videos are contents that have been designed for learning, hence the content has been adapted to the learning objectives to facilitate students in their learning. The platform has been used by many teachers to create their own video to clarify rules or ideas, to illustrate difficult topics, or simply to communicate specific assignment instructions. These videos are shareable and downloadable. Because they have unrestricted access to the information and ideas presented in the films, students will gain a lot from this approach (Siti et al., n.d.).

2. METHOD

The research methodology used in this study is a quantitative design using an online questionnaire. The questionnaire was designed to capture the situation of using social media to learn English as a foreign language, especially in improving speaking skills. The questionnaire was designed in the form of a Likert Scale with a five-point Likert Scale Strongly agree = SA, Agree = A, Disagree = D, Strongly disagree = SD, Neutral = N. The questionnaire consists of 27 items. It is divided into two parts. The first part (1-5) is about the use of social media. Second (6-22) about the use of foreign languages in improving students' speaking. The questionnaire is distributed online via WhatsApp group. Google Forms is used in this study. A link was sent to the WhatsApp group, accompanied by a message and asking students to complete the questionnaire. Respondents of this study was 30 students from SMKN 1 Rangkasbitung.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings from the questionnaire showed that 88.8% respondents are strongly agree) with first section, which asks about social media use (1–5). It is in line with Namaziandost's and Nasri's (2019) view. They argue that social media can create effective ways for the establishment of collaborative and interactive online learning system. The findings of the questionnaire's second section, which asks about speaking skill (6-22) revealed that there is 69,93% respondents who are agree. For the third section of the questionnaire, the result was 70.80% of respondents are agree. This suggests that social media use benefits EFL students' speaking abilities. So, TikTok is a useful medium for learning how to speak English. especially for pupils who lack confidence and do not have an English learning partner or mentor.

The findings also showed that TikTok is one of the social media platforms that can help students learn English and increase the number of vocabularies learned. It also helps students talk with peers and teachers because TikTok may bring people together with common interests, experiences, and activities; allowing people to share their commonalities (Lakhal, 2021). Furthermore, the use of TikTok encourage students to comment and discuss various things in class. In addition, it is a platform that can connect students with native speakers which can be used wherever and whenever they wany.

On the other hand, the findings showcased that TikTok simplifies lessons to students making them better understand the material and helps students improve their pronunciation. It helps students who lack confidence to learn English. Additionally, TikTok motivates pupils by boosting their self-confidence while they study English. Additionally, the respondents said that by using TikTok in the classroom, children might learn in a more original and creative way while still remaining engaged.

Regarding the aspect of English language communication education, TikTok could supply short videos of English language learning material shared by English teachers as well as English educators or some English native-speakers in its platform for youngsters to learn in an innovative mode. Meanwhile, students can also create their own digital oral English presentations in the form of short videos in TikTok. In this case, teachers as well as some other TikTok users can give comments to help improve these cohort of students' English communication competence by giving comments (Xiuwen & Razali, 2021).

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the respondents have positive perceptions on the impact of social media use (TikTok) on EFL students in learning, especially in speaking. TikTok is an effective media to practice students' English either orally or written. In addition, it boosts students' confidence to use their English.

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