

The Use of Memrise Application in Teaching Speaking Skill: A Case Study Of 7th Grade Students of SMPN 1 Mandalawangi

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Abstrak: This research aims to analyze the implementation and students' responses to the Memrise application, a learning media in teaching speaking skills in terms of the acceptability of 7th grade students at SMPN 1 Mandalawangi. This research aims to know the implementation at Memrise application in the classroom, by observing and analyzing how students respond to this application by interviews. The method used in this research is a qualitative method with a case study design. Because in this pandemic period, the teachers limited students' activities and only provided opportunities for the researcher to examine 10 students in 7 grade. The results of this research stated that 10 students who had participated in this study felt a difference after using the Memrise application as a learning media, 3 students stated the Memrise application is a fun application, 3 other students stated that the Memrise application was easy to use and easy to understand, and 4 others stated that this Memrise application could help in improving their speaking skills. In addition, 10 students who took part in this study also felt comfortable when learning using the Memrise application and they suggested that learning in the classroom can be assisted by using applications so that learning can be easier and more enjoyable. Thus, it can be concluded, the use of Memrise applications can be applied and accepted by 7th grade junior high school students in teaching speaking skills.

Kata kunci: *Speaking, Teaching Speaking Skill, Memrise Application*

RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Speaking is an important role in communication. Speaking can find in the spoken cycle, especially in the Joint Construction of Text stage (Departmen Pendidikan Nasional, 2004). Speaking is a productive language skill (Siahaan, 2008:95). It means that speaking is a person's skill to produce sounds that exist at the meaning and can be understood by other people, so that able to create good communication. The lack of student interest in learning makes the classroom less effective; this has become a psychological factor for students in learning speaking skills. According to Thornbury (2005), psychological factors such as anxiety or shyness, lack of confidence, lack of motivation, and fear of making mistakes are the factors commonly that hinder students from speaking. Based on field conditions that occurred at SMPN 1 Mandalawangi that the difficulties involved include fear of making mistakes, embarrassment, lack of vocabulary, lack of knowledge about grammar, few opportunities to speak in few in discussion groups, and the use of Indonesian to answer teacher questions and talk to classmates. Under these circumstances, this is one of the

reasons researchers use the "Memrise application" in teaching speaking skills. The Memrise application is an application to help us in learning speaking by understanding the vocabulary first. So based on the explanation above, it is important for the researcher to observe of teaching speaking skills using Memrise application at junior high school and to find out how students respond to the use of the Memrise application in learning speaking skills

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Speaking

Speaking is the delivery of language through the mouth. To speak, we create sounds using many parts of our body, including the lungs, vocal tract, vocal cords, tongue, teeth, and lips. According to Harmer (2007:284), speaking is the ability to speak fluently and presupposes not only knowledge of language features but also the ability to process information and language 'on the spot.' In contrast, Nunan (in Kayi, 2006: 1) defines speaking as the use of language quickly and confidently with few unnatural pauses called fluency. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that speaking is one of four skills of English to express opinion, idea, thought, our feeling and etc.

Teaching Speaking Skill

Teaching can be defined as engagement with learners to enable their understanding and application of knowledge, concepts, and processes. It includes design, content selection, delivery, assessment, and reflection. Tardif (in Adrian, 2004) states that teaching is any action performed by an individual (the teacher) with the intention of facilitating learning in another individual (the learner).

Memrise Application

Memrise application is an application to help us in learning speaking by understanding the vocabulary first. This application offers a variety of interesting and creative ways to make users understand every given vocabulary so that users of this application can remember every vocabulary easily. Memrise was created by Grand Master of Memory Ed Cooke, assisted by a neurologist specialist in the science of memory and forgetting Greg Detre in 2009. This application will help us learn various materials with the method of planting memory through flashcards. To date, there are 88 language options available to study with a wide selection of materials and levels.

METODE PENELITIAN/RESEARCH METHOD (HEADING 1)

This research uses qualitative data with a case study design. In this type of research, the researcher collected, classified, analyzed, and drew a conclusion based on the data analysis without making a generalization. Creswell (2009: 4) states that qualitative research is a study to investigate and understand the meaning individuals or groups assume to be a social or a human problem. This research was conducted at SMPN 1 Mandalawangi. SMPN 1 Mandalawangi is a junior high school located on Jl. Mandalawangi Km. 17 Pandeglang, Banten. The participant of the research is 7th-grade students of SMPN 1 Mandalawangi it consists of 10 students. In this research, the research instrument is the researcher itself. According to Ary (2010: 412), "in qualitative studies, the human investigator is the primary instrument for the gathering and analyzing of data," and the researcher using observation and interview.

In qualitative research, the data analysis technique was done together with the data collecting

technique. In this research, the researcher was used matrix analysis from Miles and Huberman (2014: 11) by using some activities in analyzing the data, such as data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. After auditing the data and clarifying it, the next step is verification of the data, which is to check the data that has been collected again to find out the validity of the data. In this verification stage, the researcher examines the validity of the data again by triangulation. According to Sugiyono (2012), Data triangulation is where the researcher uses two or more methods for the verification of the findings and results. And in this research, the researcher uses the triangulation method.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This research aims to analyze the implementation and students' responses to the Memrise application, which is a learning media in teaching speaking skills in terms of the acceptability of 7th grade students at SMPN 1 Mandalawangi. Observations and interviews were used as an instrument in this research. Observation is used to see how the Memrise application is implemented in teaching speaking skills, while interviews are used to see how students respond to the usefulness of the Memrise application in learning speaking skills. The results of the observations show how the implementation of the Memrise application in teaching speaking skills was carried out and helps problems that often occur among students when learning English, especially in speaking skills such as difficulty in practicing speaking, feeling boring when learning takes place and feeling embarrassed when the teacher asks to practice it in front of the class.

The role of media in learning English is needed to increase students' motivation and interest in learning. According to Sudirman (2013:15), media is a component of learning resources or physical vehicles that contain material, the instructional environment in the student environment that can trigger students to study. One of them is the Memrise application which is used to help improve speaking skills. Chandra & Kusumadewi (2018) stated that the Memrise application could help to practice speaking skills in an easy and fun method for users. This theory is related to the situation of 7th grade students of SMPN 1 Mandalawangi.

The results of the interview to knowing deeply about the use of Memrise application in teaching speaking skills, there are three questions to know about students' response in using Memrise application at speaking class. In the first question "With using Memrise application do you feel the processes of the difference in learning speaking?" the first students' response is Memrise application is a fun learning media based on respondent 1 and its similar with respondent 2 and 3. As stated by Dalimunthe (2018), the Memrise application is an application of online learning that is fun for students and good, fast, and high of quality in learning.

The second students' response is Memrise application is easy to use based on respondent 4 and it's similar with respondent 5 and 6. Chandra & Kusumadewi (2018) stated that the Memrise application could help to practice speaking skills in an easy and fun method for users. The last students' response is Memrise application is an application media in learning is very helpful to improve speaking skill because these media stimulate to study based on respondent 7 and it's similar with respondent 8, 9 and 10. According to Sudirman (2013: 15), the media is a component of learning resources or physical vehicles that contain material, the instructional environment in students that can stimulate students to study.

The second question is "Do you feel comfortable in learning speaking by using Memrise application?" students' responses to the students' convenience of using the Memrise application in learning based on the interview data they are stated the same answer.

Respondents said that this Memrise application is comfortable to use in learning English, especially in speaking skills. Based on all respondents, this Memrise application has provided convenience in learning English. According to Louis (2016), the students found using Memrise enjoyable and convenient, and therefore it would be a useful tool in teaching speaking.

The last question is “Do you have any beneficial suggestions for the process of learning English?” the students’ response that the role of the application as learning media can make learning more fun based on all respondents, Ambar (2018) stated that the role of applications as learning media could help students to improve their ability to absorb various available information and make learning more fun.

Learning media is a teaching tool used to help deliver the subject matter in the teaching and learning process so as to facilitate the achievement of the learning objectives that have been formulated. Miarso (2004) argues that learning media are everything that is used to channel messages and can stimulate the thoughts, feelings, attention, and willingness of the learner so that it can encourage the learning process.

CONCLUSION

This research aims to analyze the implementation and students' responses to the Memrise application, which is a learning media in teaching speaking skills in terms of the acceptability of 7th grade students at SMPN 1 Mandalawangi. Observations and interviews were used as an instrument in this research. Observation is used to see how the Memrise application is implemented in teaching speaking skills, while interviews are used to see how students respond to the usefulness of the Memrise application in learning speaking skills.

Based on the observation, the implementation of the Memrise application in the classroom was implemented well. It can be shown that the Memrise application is applicable for 7th grade students of SMPN 1 Mandalawangi. It can be seen from the interest of students in this application and the increased activeness of students in the learning.

Based on the interview, students argue that the Memrise application can be fun learning media, easy to use, and helps the students in improving their speaking skill, so Memrise application is comfortable to use in learning English, especially in speaking skill. In addition to practicing speaking skills, this application also indirectly trains students in other English skills such as listening, reading and writing.

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