The Effect of U-Dictionary Application Towards Students' Pronunciation Mastery at Eleventh Grade of SMAN 3 Pandeglang in Academic Year 2021/2022

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ABSTRACT

The research employs the quantitative research approach and quasi experimental method with pre-test and post-test design. It used a triangulation of data collection methods involving pre-test, treatment and post-test. The data obtained from two classes they are experiment and control class. The experimental class for this research was XI IPA 8 and the control class was XI IPA 3. Each class has 30 students, for a total sample is 60 students. The experimental class's mean score on the pre-test was 51.33, while the control class's mean score on the pre-test was 44.00. On the other hand, the mean score of experimental class post-test was 67.20, while the mean score of control class post-test was 59.20. Hypothesis calculating was done by using SPSS 22. The result obtained from hypothesis test is $0.00 < 0.05$ it means that there is significant effect of using U-Dictionary application to students' pronunciation mastery at the eleventh grade of SMAN 3 Pandeglang.

INTRODUCTION

Communication is a process of exchanging ideas, thoughts, and information from one person to another verbally or nonverbally. Communicating with others is a basic need. Healthy living involves interacting and engaging with others. The human primary need is communication through language.

Language is a tool of communication, through language people can communicate with other people. Language is a media that helps in the sending of thoughts via sounds, symbols, written or spoken word, posture, gesture or signs, etc. In the world there are a lot of Language, one of them is English.

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English is an international language, with English we can communicate with foreign people and cooperate in economics, health, social matters, and education. That is why English become the important subject to be learned. English has four skills, they are reading, listening, writing, and speaking.

Speaking is one of English skill, speaking is the delivery of language through the mouth. To speak, people create sound using many parts of their body, including the lungs, vocal tract, vocal cords, tongue, teeth, and lips.

In speaking, there are many elements, one of them is pronunciation, according to Hornby in Laelatul Ma'lah (2008:352) pronunciation refers to how we produce the sound that we use to make meaning when we speak. Pronunciation is a way in which a language or particular word or sound is spoken. Pronunciation is an important aspect to master in communicating appropriately and fluently. The importance of attention to pronunciation since it can direct someone's message to be passed or not by another people. Pronunciation significantly affects the meaning of someone's utterance. There are a lot of students find pronunciation as one of the most difficult aspects in learning English.

At SMK Bakti Nusantara where the researcher teaches, there are a lot of students' problems found about English. The first problem is the student's interest. Students are not interested to learn English, this could be proven when the researcher ask the students, their answers are relatively uninterested towards English. As mentioned by Reza the eleventh-grade student, he said "Because English is difficult".

The second problem is the students' fear to speak English, when the researcher ask the students about the next problems, their answers are relatively afraid to speak English. As mentioned by Gista, the eleventh-grade student, she said "Because if I am wrong my friends will be laughing".

The third problem is there are the student that cannot pronounce the consonant sound, for example "r" and "s", the student cannot pronounce "r" and "s" sound because the student has a lisp, a lisp is caused by immature lip-tongue coordination.

The fourth problem is the students did not have pronunciation ability enough, based on the researcher experience when the researcher asks the students to read aloud the text their pronunciation is very bad.

The last problem is the students make an errors or mistakes when pronounce the word. Based on the researcher experience, she found that the students make an errors and mistakes when they read the text aloud, and then their score is under 50.

The researcher conclude that students need media to help them because media can help the students in their study and also the presence of a learning media in teaching process is going to make the teaching and learning process become more interesting, in here the researcher will use U-Dictionary as media learning.

U-Dictionary is media that can help the students to know how to pronounce the word, in this application there is the feature can check our pronunciation with transcript and authentic UK (British) and US (American) accent.

Pronunciation

Yates and Zelinski (2014:11) stated that pronunciation refers to how we produces the sound that we use to make meaning when we speak. It includes the particular consonants and vowel of a language (segments), aspects of speech beyond the level of individual segments, such as stress, timing, rhythm, intonation, phrasing (supra segmental aspects) and how the voice is projected (voice quality).

Gilakjani (2011:1) assumed that pronunciation is one of most important skills in English language teaching. If speakers have very bad pronunciation, their speech will not be understandable to the listener.

Pronunciation must be viewed as more than correct production of individual sounds or isolated words. Instead, it must be viewed as a crucial and integral part of communication that should be in corporate into classroom activities. Teacher can help students by highlighting elements such as sounds, syllables, stress and intonation (Gilakjani, 2011:12)

According to Gumelar (2020:3) pronunciation has two elements, there are segmental and supra segmental features.

1) Segmental features

   According to Wahyuki (in Ma'lah 2008:35) segmental refers to the sound units which are arranged in a sequential order. The sound units of utterance are represented by the phonetic symbols. Segmental features include vowel and consonant.

   a) Vowel

   According O'connor (in Ma'lah 1980:79) states that vowel is made by voiced air passing through different mouth-shapes; the differences in the shapes of the mouth are caused by different position of the tongue and of the lips. Wahyuki (in Ma'lah 2008:56) There are two types of vowels, namely pure vowel and diphthong. English has 12 vowels, they are: /i:/, /ɑ:/, /u:/, /ɔ:/, /ɜ:/, /ɪ/, /e/, /ʌ/, /ə/, /ʊ/, /æ/.

   b) Diphthong

   According to Gumelar (2020: 4) diphthong is double sound and sometimes it is called as independent vowel. Diphthong is formed by gliding from one vowel to another vowel position. English has 8 diphthongs, they are: /ei/, /ai/, /ɔi/, /iə/, /eə/, /ʊə/, /aʊ/, / oʊ/, /əʊ/.

   c) Consonant

   Consonant are made by blocking or restricting the airflow from the lungs by using the lips, teeth, and tongue Yates and Zelinski (2014:41). According to Gumelar (2020:5) states that English has 24 consonants sounds, they are: /p/, /b/, /t/, /d./, /k/, /g/, /f/, /v/, /s/, /z/, /h/, /m/, /n/, /l/, /r/, /w/, /j/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/, /θ/, /ð/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /ŋ/.

2) Supra segmental

   According to Gumelar (2020:9) states that supra segmental sound refers to how speech functions. This function means what the whether the speech sound is a verb or noun if the sound itself happens in a word, and whether the speech sound is a statement, imperative or question if the sound itself happens in a phrase or sentence.

   According to Gumelar (2020:9) states that in this section those elements are divided into two elements only. They are stress and intonation.

   a) Stress

   Stress is the force of the breath in the production of speech sound. Normally, one word with one syllable is unstressed. When a word has more than one syllable, one of them will be pronounced with more prominence than the others.

   b) Intonation

   Intonation is a term that's used to refer to the distinctive use of different patterns of pitch that carry meaningful information. When we speak, normally the pitch of our voice is constantly changing. We describe pitch in terms of high and low. The rise and fall of pitch in the voices play a crucial role in how the meaning is expressed.

   According to Gumelar (2020:10) states that in general there are two types of intonation. They are rising intonation and falling intonation. Furthermore, one of the uses of intonation is to

show the grammar of what we are saying. Rising intonation occurs in: yes/no questions, question tags, and in special emphasis. Falling intonation occurs in: declarative sentences, question tags, special emphasis, and in pronominal question.

The Product of Sounds

1) The organs of articulation

    In order to speak or communicate each other, human being used sounds. Gumelar (2020:14) states that the sounds of human being are produced by organ of speech (articulator). Here are the organs of speech (articulator) that human has: Lips, tongue, teeth, alveolar ridge, palate, velum, uvula, pharynx, larynx, glottis.

2) Place of Articulation

    Place of articulation is the location at which two speech organs approach or come together in producing a speech sound. Here are the places of articulation according to Gumelar (2020:16): Bilabial, labiodental, interdental, alveolar, alveopalatal, velar, glottal.

3) Manner of Articulation

    Gumelar (2020:5) states that there are 6 manners of consonant sounds to articulate correctly. They are plosive or stop, affricates, fricatives, nasal, liquid, and glides.

U-Dictionary

According to Putri (2021:20) U-Dictionary is one of mobile media and the online and also offline dictionaries that can be downloaded from an android or smartphone.

U-Dictionary is an offline application made by NetEase that has many languages like (English, Indonesian, Italian, Javanese, and other languages) this dictionary can check our pronunciation with transcript from Oxford Dictionary, there is also a conversation icon that is very suitable for practicing speaking skills and how to pronounce (Krismonika et al,2021:24).

Moreover, according to Aprilia and Ahmad (2020:196) U-Dictionary contains many words that are spelled in a phonetic from (vowel, consonant) complete with word stress and intonation in sound feature which they all are parts of pronunciation.

U-Dictionary application have four main features they are magic translation, camera translation, conversation translation, and check grammar, and also U-Dictionary application has a lot of side menu. They are: magic translation, camera translation, conversation translation, check grammar, offline translation, word on key, pronunciation.

Here the researcher explained how to use U-Dictionary. The first download and install the U-Dictionary application on your smartphone, after that open the U-Dictionary that has been download, select the start and then select the language that you want to use, next the main menu would be displayed, after that you could selected the features that you want to use, the last if you want to know the pronunciation of the word, you can type the word and then click the speaker too to listen the pronunciation of the word.

U-Dictionary application is an application that has a lot of features and very useful, and this application has several advantages. So, in this research the researcher explained the advantages of U-Dictionary application. This application can be used in online and offline situation, many features that you can use, such as translate, check the pronunciation, check grammar, camera translation, etc., this application also can be downloaded in playstore and appstore.

METHOD

This research used quantitative research approach and quasi experimental method with pre-test and post-test design. According to Cresswell (2018:41) Quantitative research is an approach for testing objective theories by examining the relationship among variables. These variables, in turn, could be measured, typically on instruments, so that numbered data can be analyzed using statistical procedures. Cresswell (2018:225) stated that quasi experimental designs is in which a

researcher has only partial (or no) control over randomly assigning participants to levels of a manipulated variable of interest. This research used two classes, there are experimental class and control class.

In this research, the researcher used pronounce test as an instrument. In pronounce test, the researcher gave some test for the student. The test had given twice, before and after treatment. Pre-test to know their pronounce skills before using U-Dictionary application and the post-test is measure to check the effect of U-dictionary towards student's pronunciation mastery. In collecting the data, the researcher collects the data by employing these procedures:

1. Pre-test
   The first step is pre-test whereas the researcher gave an oral test for students to found out the student's prior knowledge, this test is given before treatment that is using U-Dictionary application. The researcher gave monolog and asked the students to read the monolog. After that the researcher transcribed and gave score dealing with vowels, diphthongs, consonants, stress, and intonations.

2. Treatment
   After the researcher gave pre-test, the researcher introduced the U-Dictionary and how to use it, after that the researcher asked the students to learn pronounce by using U-Dictionary application for experimental class and Mimind application for control class. This treatment took fourth meeting and each meeting spend 60 minutes.

3. Post-test
   The last step is post-test, in this step the researcher gave some monolog to the students like in the pre-test. This test is given to know their improvement in pronounce of English after having the treatment. The researcher gave some monolog to the students and asked the students to read the monolog.

The data would be analyzed by the some stages, they are: normality, homogeneity and hypothesis test. Normality testing is a test of the normality of the data distribution. The form is adopted from Ary, et al (2012:202). In this research the researcher used a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test by using SPSS 22 for program windows. Homogeneity Measures Other internal-consistency measures of score reliability do not require splitting the test into halves and scoring each half separately. These procedures assess the inter-item consistency, or homogeneity, of the items Ary et al (2012:262). In this research the researcher used Levene test for calculating the data by using SPSS 22 for windows program. According to Ozdemir (2016: 168) hypothesis test is a statistical test that is used to ascertain whether we are allowed to assume that a certain condition is true for the entire population, given a data sample. The result of hypothesis test to indicated whether alternative hypothesis can be accepted or rejected.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The researcher presented the result of analyzing of pre-test and post-test in figure out whether there is a significant effect of using U-Dictionary application towards students' pronunciation mastery. The researcher was conducted in eleventh grade of SMAN 3 Pandeglang, it is started on July until August. The data took from experimental class and control class. The experimental class was taught by using U-Dictionary application, while control class was taught by using Mimind application. The data showed that the number of samples from both classes is 60, the smallest value of the pre-test in the experimental class is 40 and the smallest value of post-test in experimental class is 60, the highest value of pre-test in the experimental class is 60 and the highest value of post-test in experimental class is 76, the value of mean of pre-test in experimental class is 51.33 and the value of mean of post-test in experimental class is 67.20.

On the other hand, the smallest value of pre-test in control class is 40 and the smallest value of post-test in control class is 52, the highest value of pre-test in control class is 52 and the highest

value of post-test in control class is 68, the value of mean of pre-test in control class is 45.33 and is the value of the mean of post-test in control class is 59.20.

Table 1 Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Pre test Eksperiment	30	40	60	51.33	5.950
Post test Eksperiment	30	60	76	67.20	4.972
Pre test Control	30	36	52	44.00	5.754
Post test Control	30	52	68	59.20	5.696
Valid N (listwise)	30				

The hypothesis test in this research used analysis of t-test. Before do analysis this research needs to do pre-requirement of research analysis that covers normality and homogeneity test. The researcher used SPSS 22 for calculating the data of normality, homogeneity and hypothesis test. Here is the result of calculation, the result of normality calculation showed that pre-test experiment sig $0.082 > 0.05$ the data is normal, post-test experiment sig $0.034 > 0.05$ the data is normal, pre-test control sig $0.012 > 0.05$ the data is normal, and the last is post-test control sig $0.015 > 0.05$ the data is normal. Homogeneity calculation stated that the score of homogeneity of pre-test between experimental and control class is sig > 0.05, so the data is homogenous, while the score of homogeneity of post-test between experimental and control class is sig > 0.05, so the data is homogenous. The last is the result of hypothesis test stated that the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted, because the value of sig (2-tailed) $0.00 < 0.05$. It means that there is a significant effect of U-Dictionary application to students' pronunciation mastery at eleventh grade of SMAN 3 Pandeglang.

Table 2 Summarizing the Data Processing

Analysis	Result	criteria	Description
Normality Test of experimental class	Pre-test: .082 Post-test: .034	Sig > 0.05	The data are normally distributed
Normality test of control class	Pre-test: .059 Post-test: .015	Sig > 0.05	The data are normally distributed
Homogeneity test of pre-test in both of the class	Sig: .779	Sig > 0.05	The data are homogenous
Homogeneity test of post-test in both of the class	Sig: .329	Sig > 0.05	The data are homogenous
Paired sample T-test	.000	Sig. (2-tailed) < 0.05	H_a accepted

CONCLUSION

In this section the researcher would like to conclude the research based on the data above. Before the researcher gave the treatment to the students both of the classes, the students score is poor. After the researcher gave treatment using U-Dictionary in experiment class, the students' score has significantly improved. U-Dictionary application can help students to know how to pronounce the word. The use of U-Dictionary application as media for lesson activity improve the students' score.

The researcher summarized the conclusion above that U-Dictionary application are effective to improve the students' achievement in pronouncing English word, although not all of the students can pronounce the word well. However, the students' improvement was also supported by the

students' interest in the U-Dictionary and their motivation in taking part the activities of the learning process.

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