THE ROLE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN SUPPORTING STUDENTS' LISTENING SKILLS THROUGH DIGITAL MUSIC PLATFORMS AND PODCASTS: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

The collaboration of Digital Technology and learning has become one great topic recently. Many people try to search for good ways to support their teaching and learning process through digital technology. Technology has offered many kinds of applications that can help students and teachers. The Music platforms and podcasts consist of many things that can help the students improve their English, especially their English skills. In this literature review, I would like to find and share the role of Digital Technology in supporting students' Listening through music platforms and podcasts. And the methodology that I would like to use is the qualitative method in which there will be some interviews and videos in collecting the data. And reading through all the results of the interviews and drawing some connections between digital technology and the learning process to analyze the data, the participants are from X Grade students of Makassar Adventists Senior High School. As a result, those students who are active with digital technology, especially the music platforms and podcasts, have better listening skills than those who are not. Here the writer found out that digital music platforms and podcasts can support students' listening skills.

Keywords*: Digital technology, Music Platform, Podcast, listening skill*

INTRODUCTION

In this modern life, English has become an essential role in education, especially to the youth. Even though English is not the only most spoken language globally, we cannot deny that English has become an official language of the world. And due to globalization time, English has become an essential language in the world. English has a vital role in the lives of the youth because it can help them for communication, not only for that, but English is also the primary language for studying many subjects all over the world. It means English can help the youth to broaden their minds, develop some skills, and it can also improve the youths' quality of life in many circumstances.

In this modern life, we must be thankful for technology because it has become one of the tools that support the youth in developing their English skill. It is so rare to find a student without some technology because it is needed. Through technology, the students can benefit from improving their English skills because technology enables them to learn, communicate, and even increase their productivity. Jobirovich, Y. M (2021) stated that Digital technologies contribute to the formation of knowledge, skills, qualifications, and compensation in students and provide relief to the work activities of the teacher.

One of the skills of English that is important is listening. English listening skills can help the youth and students build relationships, support their careers, ensure understanding, resolve any conflicts.
Having good listening skills is crucial in avoiding miscommunication. Technology can offer many kinds of platforms in supporting students listening skills, such as Digital Music Platform and Podcast; these two things have kept students' communication skills.

There are many kinds of music platforms, one of them is Spotify. It is a music platform that is full of songs. And we can also improve our listening skills by watching some podcasts. So these two digital platforms can help the youths and students support their English Listening skills.

LITERATURE REVIEW
Listening Skill
Listening skills are needed in our daily speaking life; we can understand someone speaking by listening. With exemplary listening skills, then there will be no misunderstanding between other people. As we all know, we spend a lot of time listening; *the most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. "Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention" (Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen).*

We can deliver an excellent message to others by having good listening skills. Still, if we don't have good listening skills, the message we want to deliver sometimes will be misunderstood. According to *Marleni (2016) "listening is a language skill to understand the spoken text and build the language skill to communicate in the actual situation".*

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Digital Technology
Digital Technology is a kind of tool which is famous and essential for a couple of past years. Since the world knows digital technology, many people, from the young to the adult-use this kind of tool. The tool is valuable and exciting because it contains many exciting parts. Digital Technology has become increasingly crucial to human's everyday life in daily speaking for communication, workplace, education, and many more.

Digital Technology is one tool that uses human power as a manual but more to the automatically operating system. Digital Technology has transformed nearly every aspect of modern life. Travel, work, shopping, entertainment, and communications are just some of the areas that have been revolutionized in recent

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decades. It is now rare to find an electronic device or machinery that does not incorporate digital technology somehow.

Digital technology enables the storage of massive amounts of information in relatively small pieces.

A large number of media, such as photos, music, videos, contact information, and other documents, can be carried around on small devices like mobile phones (https://turbofuture.com). There are many examples of digital technology. Some are websites, buying and selling online, smartphones, smart TV, video streaming, digital music, and many more. Therefore, Digital Technology has an essential role in people's life of living.

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Digital Music Platform

A digital music platform is where we can stream some music or songs. So on the music platform, we can hear as many songs as we want because so many kinds of music and song are included in the music platform.

Many lists of the top music streaming platforms; Spotify is trendy. Spotify is a digital music and video service that gives us access to millions of songs and other content from creators worldwide. So we can listen to as many songs as possible, besides it can increase our immune by the motivation words in each song. We can also improve our listening skills by hearing and practicing our listening skills through the words sung by the singers.

Podcast

The podcast is well known in modern life. People tend to learn many things from podcasts in real life. There are three types of podcasts. The first is audio means sound only and is most prevalent in MP3. The second is enhanced Audio, which means sound with images, and the last is video means movies and my other forms, MPEG 4

The podcast is originally from "pod," which means iPod, one of the most popular audio devices. Nowadays, the podcast can be played on any portable digital media device. The term 'podcasting' is a combination of the words' iPod" and "broadcasting" refers to the distribution of audio content. An audio podcast is like a radio broadcast, except those listeners don't have to tune in at a particular time. Instead, users can subscribe to a podcast and automatically receive a download copy of each new episode. Users can listen to a podcast through their computer or an MP3 player such as an iPod.

In education, podcasts can increase students' listening skills and improve their listening skills for some vocabularies. By watching some videos material in podcasts, the students can learn many things and increase their listening skills. Umida. B.B (2021) said that the use of audio and video materials to develop listening comprehension effectively and enhance students' listening comprehension due to the combination of visual images and sound, which stimulate students' perceptions. In addition, we should acknowledge the importance of the tone and speed of speech which is spontaneous, similar to that in daily-life situations.

METHODOLOGY

This literature review research study discussed a review of some previous articles about their concepts, theories, and findings. A literature review is a piece of academic writing demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the academic literature on a specific topic placed in context. A literature review also includes a critical evaluation of the material; therefore, it is a literature review rather than a literature report. The purpose of this literature review is to create a viewpoint and give the full understanding of the findings related to the field of this study.

The literature review surveys of the research use some data sources, such as articles, journals, books, observation, surveys, interviews, and other sources. The researchers reviews the literature article based on the situations that happened in the classroom by describing students' English listening comprehension in using digital platforms. The researchers presented the concept of developing students' listening skills through digital music platforms and podcasts. By having an observation, the researchers will find out the relationship of digital music platforms and podcasts with the student's English listening comprehension.

After doing some research and examining the result, the researchers combined them into one frame of conclusion by collecting some kinds of literature and doing some research in which this process will help expand some knowledge. Finally, the conclusion would be presented as the consideration for educators, students, and other education departments that will be helpful to solve some problems in education, especially in English listening comprehension.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Digital Technology in Teaching and Learning Process

There are a few or even many ways to show how useful digital technology is in the teaching and learning process in the classroom or even outside the classroom. Using digital technology in the learning process can change the way of the teachers and students for their teaching and learning process. The author finds from the school of Edu (2020), it is stated that "The effective use of digital learning tools in classrooms can increase students' engagement, help teachers improve their lesson plans, and facilitate personalized learning." It also helps students build essential 21st-century skills. Virtual classrooms, video, augmented reality (AR), robots, and other technology tools can not only make class livelier. They can also create more inclusive learning environments that foster collaboration and curiosity and enable teachers to collect data on student performance. *(School of Education, 2020)*

Besides having technology for entertainment, it can also be used for education, such as students can collaborate with a group project using technology. The walls of the classrooms are no longer a barrier as technology enables new ways of learning, communicating, and working collaboratively. Technology has also begun to change the roles of teachers and learners. Sarker, Wu & Alam

(2019) said that technology should be integrated at all levels of curriculum development, the input of the learning process, procedure of the learning process, and delivery method for getting full benefits from technology leveraged learning method. Continuous reform and transformation are necessary for the teaching-learning process through using modern technology for ensuring a better education

Technology Changed Education

Since the world knows technology, many things have changed. Technology changed people's lifestyles in many aspects. One of them is in education. The technology has helped the students by providing some information, literature for studying, knowledge related to their subjects, and some fun activities. There are many new technologies being used in classrooms today: social networking, online teaching, class blogs and wikis, podcasting, interactive whiteboards, and mobile devices. There are many ways that we can get some benefit from the new technologies that are being developed today.

Technology can help education in many ways. One of them is when we must do some distance learning, it can make the learning process become easier. The students can learn by themselves too when they can't attend the class, the students can learn by podcasts and websites, they will help the students to learn and participate in discussion even when they miss classes due to sickness. The class blogs and wikis can give students a chance to participate outside the classroom. Interactive whiteboards that make teaching easier, giving students better visual aids and teachers an easier time in presenting lessons; mobile devices that allow teachers to deliver some information in a fast way.

Modern Technology in education

In modern life, technology has the most significant role in life. People may say that it was the gift by God that held a crucial thing in life. That is why we say that this era of the 21st century is often regarded as an era of technology. Technology has made everything easier. The impact of technology can be felt in every possible field. One such field is education. Technology has become an integral part of human life, and it has made inroads in the sphere of education. Digital technology is essentially reshaping the nature of learning in the classroom (Singh, 2021)

As revealed by *Nagasubramani (2018),* he argues that "According to the latest insights as to how exactly modern students of today prefer to use technology and how does their learning get an impact if they use technology, it was revealed that the use of modern equipment technology and tools, the learning and interactivity of students increases ."They also find it much more interactive and full of exciting areas when aided by technology. The transfer of knowledge becomes very easy and convenient, and effective. It means that our minds now tend to work faster when assisted with modern technology.

In this modern life, technology has helped a lot. Jack Lynch (2021) states, "we've heard a lot about the role of technology in pandemic education. And for a

good reason, digital solutions enabled school communities to maintain learning through uncertainty and interruption.

Technology in Listening Skill

Technology has supported students' listening skills, which can provide a multitude of opportunities for listening to spoken language. Good teachers will improve themselves to support their learning process, especially listening skills. Technology has a crucial role in teaching listening. Due to listening being used most frequently then developing this skill is needed.

Shapran and Lyudmila (2011) stated that "Songs can be highly useful for the developmental process of listening skills of a student. As music is everywhere in human life to change or boost emotions and feelings, we can include music and songs in language learning.

In technology, there are some applications that the students can use to improve their listening skills. Music platforms and Podcasts are some of them. This time, I would like to share one music platform that can support students' listening skills; Spotify has many songs that can be listened to anytime. Spotify is a digital music, podcast, and video service that gives you access to millions of songs and other content from creators worldwide.

Listening to music in English will enhance our language comprehension. English music improves our listening skills and increases your vocabulary. Music even helps our pronunciation. As we listen to the lyrics, we will be exposed to new English words (Lacie Burke)

The media of the teaching and learning process, in this case, songs, help the teacher teach listening and provide an exciting way for the students to achieve the learning goals. The content of the songs may become one of the influential factors which may determine the improvement of the students' listening ability. The use of songs also should consider students' needs to help students learn and achieve the learning objective.

Next is a podcast. It is usually original audio or video recordings but can also be recorded broadcasts of a television or radio program, a lecture, performance, or other events. Podcasts usually offer each episode in the same file format, such as audio or video, so that subscribers can enjoy the program the same way each time.

Podcasts are a great way to learn English. Not only can you hear real English conversation, so you can tell how words are pronounced, but you can listen to them anywhere and pause or rewind them whenever you like. There are many English podcasts that we can watch on YouTube channels. It is beneficial for improving our English. There are five podcasts to help you improve your English: the first is podcasts in English, features conversations between the native English speakers on a variety of topics, with lessons divided by language level and type, the second is the English we speak, the third is ESP pod, the fourth is better at English, and the last is Voice of America Learning English. And many more podcasts that can help us improve our English, especially in listening.

Podcasts allow students to practice their listening comprehension of complex texts that are both conversational and formal. The corresponding transcript enables students to confirm their success, so podcasts are not only for entertainment, but they can help us learn English better, especially in listening. By listening to podcasts, we can improve not only our listening skills, such as enhancing Vocabulary, allowing listeners to learn new words, improving Grammar. Students who engage in extensive listening tend to see an improved understanding of grammar rules, improving pronunciation. When we listen to native speakers pronounce words, we improve ourselves and improve Fluency. Research has found that creating your podcast significantly impacts speaking ability. The podcast helps us improve our English better, and we can practice some other skills by it.

CONCLUSION

We cannot deny that technology has changed people's life to a better thing, in many aspects, especially in education. Teachers and students have been helped a lot by the invention of this greatest gift by God. It has changed the world into an easier life.

In English listening skills especially, by some applications created by the technology the teachers and students can improve themselves to a better one. By listening to some songs on Spotify and watching some English Podcast videos, the students will get entertainment and a better future in English.

Music platform such as Spotify delivers millions of songs and podcasts. Young people like to listen to songs and watch them. In Spotify, there is a text for every song that can make it the students easier to practice their English, especially listening skills. Anggraini & Fauzy stated that Listening to English songs could enhance the listening skill because the song is one of the media that is interested in improving listening skills.

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