TECHNOLOGY BASED METHOD TO BOOM THE VOCABULARY ACQUISITION OF HEALTH PRACTITIONER STUDENTS IN EFL LEARNING: EFFECTIVENESS AND PERCEPTION

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ABSTRACT

Adapting to the technology development, telegram as one of the accessible social media is used to integrate EFL learning of non English students to the vocabulary acquisition. The health practitioner students have serious difficulties in mastering vocabularies related their subject. Teaching and learning to the subject then integrated technology-based method by implementing telegram quiz bot to boom their vocabulary acquisitions. 30 students of health science were interviewed and asked to fill questionnaire about their perception towards the method and its effectiveness. Data, taken from interview, questionnaire and observation then analyzed by data display, reduction and drawing conclusion. Restating the result, students stated that learning vocabulary by doing quiz in telegram successfully increase their interest in learning EFL. They claimed to be easier in memorizing some vocabularies since the quiz bots provides interactive and colorful features. They did outline that their

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vocabulary acquisition increased in significant number after experiencing the method.

Keywords: telegram quiz bots, vocabulary acquisitions, learning interest

Introduction

Technology is almost identical to human existence. At the school age, Students are constantly exposed to technology, whether for personal or educational purposes. Although teachers frequently chastise pupils for being distracted by such devices, children are living in an extremely fascinating moment when technology is both growing and omnipresent (Robinson, 2010, Hilton, 2015). Considering the close proximity of technology to students, education needs to consider integrating it into learning.

Through the spread of technologies and information, learning sources can be obtained unlimitedly. Especially for health practitioner

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students, they need adequate vocabulary acquisition to comprehend the health science material. Besides that, mastering various vocabularies surely enrich student`s capacity in mastering the learning material. Vocabulary Acquisition is the most important skill for writing, sentence interpretation, and developing other language abilities, hence it is crucial for improving language abilities. Mastering a lot of vocabulary makes it easier for people to read, write, listen, and speak. One of the most crucial parts of English is vocabulary, therefore students who wish to be fluent in the language must learn as much of it as they can. According to Endarto & Subekti (2020), One of the most fundamental and crucial components of learning English is developing your vocabulary. As Milton (2013) argues 'the more vocabulary the learners know, the more fluent they are likely to perform language skills. It is undeniably believed that having a good mastery of vocabulary brings English learners to

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better performance of language skills (e.g., speaking, listening, reading, and writing) (Zou et al., 2021)

Language teaching and learning is incomplete with the integration of ICT in education today. Using technology in the educational system has significantly provided learners with several opportunities to act efficiently at this age (Suwastini et al., 2020; Puspitasari et al., 2021). Teacher and students are able to carry out teaching and learning in different places and different time. Furthermore, incorporating digital technologies into language teaching and learning is essential. When applied appropriately, technological innovations can increase students' motivation and areas of interest, make it easier for them to access input in the target language, give them more opportunities for interaction and feedback, and provide teachers the resources they need to arrange the material for their classes (Golonka, Bowles, Frank, Richardson, & Freynik, 2014; Xodabande, 2017).

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The most common technology-based methods that popular in students is social media. Social media is close to students' life. Due to the current prominence of social media, many educational practitioners attempt to integrate it into their teaching activities. Lau (2018), Wu and Marek (2018), Hamadeh et al. (2020) and Zao, et al (2002) claimed that numerous experts and researchers have found that social media can be used positively for teaching and learning, including language learning and English language learning (Ismail et al., 2019; Listiani et al., 2021). These findings relate to the positive effects of social media on learners' daily lives.

Vocabulary mastery plays crucial role in learning EFL. As teaching in health practitioner students, some learning sources are written in English, so that the vocabulary acquisitions determined the student`s ability in comprehend the health material. As Milton (2013) argues 'the more vocabulary the

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learners know, the more fluent are likely to perform language skills. It is also supported that having a good mastery of vocabulary brings English learners to better performance of language skills (e.g., king, listening, reading, and writing) (Zou et al., 2021). Booming the vocabulary acquisitions to non-English students is assumed to be set simply and meaningful. Therefore the idea to integrate the learning process to technology based method becomes highlight point in this study.

Investigations have discovered that Telegram helps create a stress-free and enjoyable learning environment, which increases learners' engagement, motivation, and curiosity while lowering their level of anxiety (Habibi, 2018; Zhao et al, 2022). Thus, it is necessary to analyze the effectiveness of using Telegram as media to enhance the learning process with technology. This research is aimed at examining students' perception towards integrating telegram

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into the classroom to boom vocabulary acquisition on health practitioner students.

Literature Review

Telegram is one of the most widely used social networking platforms nowadays. It is a messaging service that allows users to share and receive text, images, videos, and even their current location with one another in real time (Abbasi and Behjat, 2018). Additionally, telegram offers Bot API by generating a new Bot that is simply controlled, tailored for it, and integrated with any services. Teachers can create resources for teaching and learning in a variety of ways by utilizing this feature (Putra, 2021). Bot API is an AI (Artificial Intelligent)-based application that does machine learning at a low level. Customized bots can be used to communicate with users by responding to commands with what they have given them (Setiaji and Paputungan, 2018).

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Imamyartha, Widiati, et.al (2023) revealed that telegram has been claimed to support learners' knowledge co-construction by allowing them to share, critique, and evaluate ideas in a good atmosphere (Imamyartha et al., 2021). Students were able to collectively scaffold in a less intimidating environment, which improved their engagement with the course materials and activities (Amiryousefi, 2019). The ability of Telegram to bridge cultural, social, and intellectual resources aligns with the idea that knowledge is produced through social inquiry (Zhao et al., 2022).

Furthermore, there are numerous benefits of Telegram namely 1. It is a free app. 2. Telegram does not tax HP's internal memory because it is cloud-based and stores its messages there, allowing for speedy message delivery. 3. It requires less power to use and has a smaller app. 4. It can be simultaneously on several devices, including laptops, PCs, tablets, and

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smartphones. 5. It allows users to share anything up to 1.5 GB in size, including documents, videos, and audio files in mp3, zip, and doc formats. 6. A Telegram group reaches 200,000 members 7. There are many of bot features. 8. Messages can be timed or planned (Fitriansyah & Aryadillah, 2020, Marda, Hendriana, 2023).

Numerous literatures have been conducted by some researchers dealing with telegram. Xadobande (2017) mentioned that using social media network, especially telegram in language teaching is very effective and promising. Sudarmaji and Maulida (2023) in their research revealed that telegram is effective for teaching pronunciation because users are eager to learn new things, engaged in the learning process, and interested in learning through the media. Students' positive experiences with telegram can help them become more proficient in pronouncing words correctly. Furthermore, Putra and Inayati (2021)

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conducted similar research on telegram. They found that telegram has a beneficial effect on English Language instruction. It enables students to learn more independently. This is because, through a feature known as Bot API, the English teacher has already given all of the resources required by the students along with detailed instructions. Students seem quite interested in using telegram application as a teaching tool, based on their reactions upon using it.

Method

This study was conducted in Indonesian EFL context where English is taught as a foreign language, and in an ESP context with English learners majoring in health science. The study was qualitative as it was an attempt to explain the phenomenon being studied from the perspective of participant and comprehend human experience (Merriam, 1998). Health practitioners students are non English students majoring in health science that they do not have high interest in learning

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English. 30 students of health science participated in this research. In addition, to boost the vocabulary acquisitions, telegrams have been used into their educational endeavors. To know the student`s perception, Researchers used questionnaires, interview and documentation to gain the data. The questionnaires were distributed through google form after completing the subject. Then, interview was conducted to get more information and students' perception toward telegram. The data analysis began in three steps. First, data reduction, data display and drawing conclusion or verification.

Finding and Discussion

In this study, there are three findings. First, from the interview, it is found that health practitioners' students experienced difficulties in mastering English vocabularies. The proposed solution was integrating learning method based on technology to enhance the learning process. Then telegram is used as one of the

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technology based method. Telegram provides several bots that facilitate learning vocabulary to be simply and easily. Among them are providing a means to create multiple choice questions, providing a pool feature, providing facilities for creating titles and descriptions of quizzes (Asroriyah, 2023). Besides that, quiz bot users can add media in form of text, images and audio as captured on picture 1. By adding those features, the quiz provides learning material from various sources so that it can enhance students' interest in doing the test.

Second, students stated that using telegram increase their interest in learning. Besides its simplicity, telegram bots have colorful pop up that appeared when students choose the correct answer, as it is seen on picture 2. In addition, the bots also show the incorrect answer so that students can learn independently (picture 3). The increase of student`s interest in line with the increase of their vocabulary

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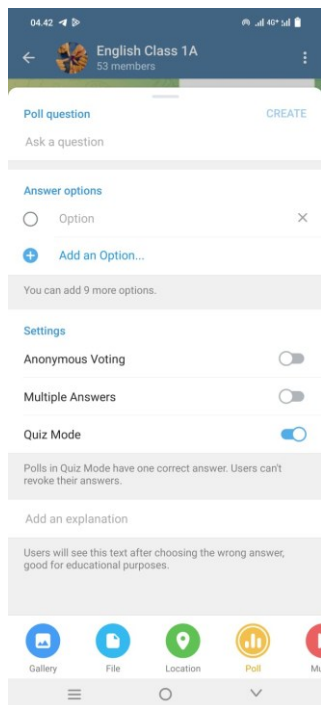Faiqotur Rizkiyah, Fitriya Dessi Wulandari

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mastery. The questionnaire revealed that the number of vocabulary mastery increasing since students feel interesting in doing the exercise. More than half students agreed that interesting media increase their interest in learning, thus made them easier not only to do the exercise but also to memorize the material.
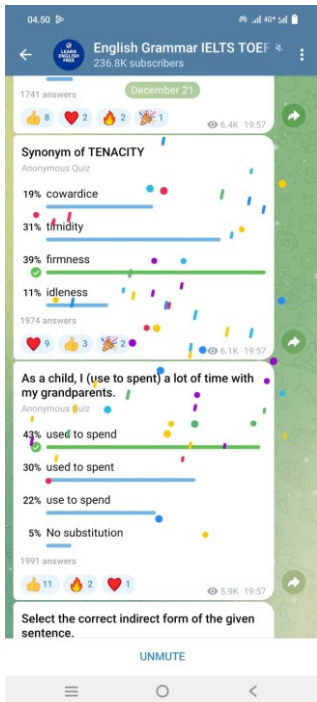
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Picture 1   Picture 2

Picture 3

Third, it is inline with Imamyartha, Widiati, et.al (2023) who had revealed that telegram has been claimed to support learners' knowledge co-construction by allowing them to share, critique, and

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evaluate ideas in a good atmosphere. In this study, student`s perception towards the use of this social media in learning vocabulary is positive. Referring to the interview result, learning EFL in telegram bot quiz gave students positive image so that they get interest to the material. In other sides, it makes them easier to memorize numbers of new vocabularies.

Conclusion

Integrating technology-based method in teaching and learning EFL is crucial to fulfill the need of technology development. Since teaching in non-English department students, the health science students, learning material must be set simply and meaningful. In addition, vocabulary acquisition is one of the aspects that highly needed by health science students to comprehend the health science. Hence, integrating technology by using telegram is used to boom the vocabulary acquisition. One of the telegram features that beneficial to boom the vocabulary

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acquisition is the bot quiz. From student`s perspective, learning vocabulary by doing exercise in bot quiz in the telegram add their insight to use such a technology. They became aware to integrate social media in learning English. In addition, bot quiz in telegram had increased their interest in learning, since it simplicity, colorful and interactive. Moreover, it also makes them to be easier to memorize the vocabularies. Highlighting achievement that by integrating technology based method, which is using telegram bots to boom the vocabulary acquisition of health practitioners students successfully increase both students vocabulary acquisition and learning interest.

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