THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HELLO ENGLISH APPLICATION TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' SPEAKING SKILL AT SMP NEGERI 26 PURWOREJO

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Abstract

Hello English application is an interactive learning strategy to improve students' speaking skills. The objectives of this study are to describe students' speaking skill and to find out whether the Hello English application is effective or not on students' speaking skill in class VII of SMP Negeri 26 Purworejo in the academic year 2023/2024. This research is quantitative research with pre-test and post-test designs. The population in this study were class VII students of SMP Negeri 26 Purworejo in the academic year 2023/2024 with a population of 150 students and the sample amounted to 60 students from class VII B as the experimental class and class VII D as the control class. Researcher took samples using purposive sampling. The researcher analyzes the data by using descriptive statistics to find the mean, median, mode, range, standard deviation, and variance. Whereas, inferential analysis is used to prove the hypothesis test in the significance level 0.05. The results of the data analysis showed that the mean pre-test score of the experimental group was 51.60 and the control group pre-test was 51.07. Whereas, the mean score of the post-test of the experimental group was 67.07 and the mean score of the post-test of the control group was 62.80. By comparing the mean scores of the two groups, it can be seen that the post-test mean score of the experimental group is higher than the post-test mean score of the control group (67.07>62.80). In addition, the T-test results based on SPSS 16.0 calculations using the Independent T-test showed a t-value of 2.297 with Sig. (2-tailed) lower than 0.05 (0.025<0.05), which means Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted. Therefore, the results of this study indicate that the Hello English application is effective in improving students' speaking skill in class VII of SMP Negeri 26 Purworejo in the 2023/2024 academic year.

Keywords**:** *Effectiveness, Hello English Application, Speaking Skill*

1   INTRODUCTION

English is an international language that has an important role. There are four skills that teachers must teach students at school, namely speaking, writing, listening, and reading. In Permendikbud No. 21 of 2016 to ensure that students have the ability to speak English, students are expected to be able to communicate interpersonally, transactionally, and functionally. According to [1], language students must understand pronunciation such as intonation, stress and sound. Every student must understand intonation correctly, be able to place stress, and know good pronunciation. One of the important skills in English is students' speaking skills.

Speaking is one of the skills students must have in learning English. According to [2], speaking is the transmission of language through the mouth. To speak, one must make sounds using body parts, including the lungs, vocal tract, vocal cords, tongue, teeth, and lips. This form of spoken language usually requires at least one listener. There are several factors that can be used to make learning English in class run effectively, one of which is by using creative learning methods or media. According to [3], learning using English applications available on smartphones connected to the internet can make it easier for students to learn. According to [4], Hello English is an English learning application that offers macro skills such as speaking, listening, vocabulary and grammar in English through interesting games.

Teaching is an activity that usually occurs between teachers and students in the classroom. According to [5],teaching is an activity showing or helping someone to learn something, giving directions, guiding learning, imparting knowledge and information. According to [1], teaching is giving someone knowledge or teaching or educating (someone). According to [5], learning is gaining knowledge about a subject or skill through learning, experience, or teaching. Learning is important because through

learning students become better at doing or understanding knowledge. According to [6], learning is a process that is done to acquire skills, knowledge, and attitudes that are obtained gradually and continuously.

Speaking is a very important skill for students in learning English. [7] defines speaking as an activity carried out orally which produces utterances in the form of sentences to communicate with others. [8] also states that speaking requires not only an understanding of how to acquire language skills such as grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary, but also sociolinguistic competencies such as when, why and how to speak. Furthermore, [9] said that good speaking skills can be classified as speaking skills if the listener can understand the sentences produced by the speaker. According to [10], there are three classes of functions; speak as interaction, speak as transaction and speak as performance. According to [11], speaking is a complex skill because it involves components of pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar and fluency.

To achieve learning objectives, teachers should choose the resources used in teaching and learning according to material needs. In addition, the media makes a positive contribution to teaching and learning. According to [12], this period is the era of mobile phones, interactive Television, computer games and virtual worlds. Because new technologies are integrated into our daily lives. According to [13], learning with media also helps students improve understanding, facilitates interpretation of information, presents information in an interesting way, and summarizes information. According to [14], media is a tool that can be used to facilitate teaching and learning, explain new concepts in a way that students can easily understand, and to stimulate student motivation and interest in learning.

According to [15], young learners can play a role in playing their smartphone which is useful for their language learning. Hello English is an application made for learning English. According to [16], Hello English is an application designed to help users learn English interactively. Application it's released in October 2014 with 22 languages, which has 475 lessons and also has a bilingual dictionary with 10,000 words. According to [17], Hello English can help students understand topics and avoid boredom in class. [18] state that the Hello English application as a medium for teaching English as a foreign language can create a pleasant atmosphere in class, inspire students and make them want to continue learning English.

2 METHODOLOGY

This research was conducted a quantitative study with a quasi-experimental design and pre-test and post-test control designs. According to [19], the goal of a quasi-experimental research design is to evaluate the effect of a treatment or intervention, which requires a comparison between what happens after the treatment and what happens if the treatment is not given.

There are many variables in the research but she takes two variables namely independent variable which function to help explaining the change in the dependent variable and dependent variable whose change the researcher wishes to explain.

The sampling technique is a form of sampling technique. According to [20], there are two types of sampling methods; 1. Probability Sampling. 2. Non-Probability Sampling. The sample is part of the population selected to participate in the research; it is the small subset of groups selected to participate in a research project [21]. According to [22], a sample is a limited part of a statistical population whose characteristics are examined to obtain overall information.

The instrument used in this study is a speaking test. This test consists of a dialog test. The purpose of this test is to measure students' pronunciation in speaking ability. According to [23], research instruments are tools used by researchers when collecting data.

Descriptive analysis is important in research because it provides a basis for further analysis and allows researchers to reproduce research. According to [24], the most important descriptive analysis process is related to central tendency (mean, median, and mode). According to the statement, this study explains some data clearly. According to [25], the mean (symbol) is the sum of individual values. According to [26], Median is the average when observations are sorted in order of magnitude. According to [27], the mode is the value that appears most frequently in the data.

According to [28], the normality test is used to determine whether the data in the sample is normally distributed or not. It is used to generalize the population. According to [29], data can be considered normal if the significance is greater than the significance level (>0.05). According to [30], the homogeneity test is the assumption that each distribution or comparison of distributions has the same

level of variance in a certain set of data points. According to [31], a hypothesis is a temporary answer regarding a research problem until it can be proven by the data collected.

3   FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1   Data Description

The researcher conducted this research at SMP N 26 Purworejo in the 2023/2024 school year. In this section, the researcher presents the results of the tests he conducted in the experimental group and control group on the pre-test and post-test. The researcher took two groups of VII grade students. The total number of students was 60. The researcher collected data from the pre-test and post-test.

3.2   Descriptive Analysis

In this stage, the researcher would thoroughly review the descriptive data from the respondents. The central symptoms tendency and measurement of variation group were calculated using IBM SPSS 16.0. The results of the SPSS computation were described as follows:

Table 24. The Descriptive Analysis Using SPSS 16.0 Computation

Statistics

		Pre-Test Experimental	Post-Test Experimental	Pre-Test Control	Post-Test Control
N	Valid	30	30	30	30
	Missing	0	0	0	0
Mean		51.60	67.07	51.07	62.80
Median		52.00	66.00	50.00	62.00
Mode		52	64	44	56
Std. Deviation		8.492	7.404	8.183	6.980
Variance		72.110	54.823	66.961	48.717
Range		28	28	28	28
Minimum		40	56	40	52
Maximum		68	84	68	80
Sum		1548	2012	1532	1884

Based on table this study found that the results of manual calculation and SPSS 16.0 were the same. Then, looking at the test results, the mean scores of the experimental group and control group in the pre-test were 51.60 and 51.07 and could be categorized as poor and fairly sufficient. Then, seen from the post-test results, the mean score of the experimental group increased by 51.60 points to 67.07 and was categorized as good. Meanwhile, the mean score of the control group was only 51.07 points to 62.80 and categorized as sufficient. The normality test is used to see whether the data distribution is normal or not. In testing the normality of the data, researcher used SPSS 16.0 using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test. The calculation of the normality test using SPSS 16.0 can be seen in the table below:

Table Test of Normality Kolmogorov-Smirnov Using SPPS 16.0 of Experimental Group

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Unstandardized Residual
N		30
Normal Parameters[a]	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	6.92321927
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.105
	Positive	.105
	Negative	-.057
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z		.576
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.895

a. Test distribution is Normal.

The data can be said normal if the significance value is higher than the significance level (> 0.05). Meanwhile, the data can be said abnormal if the significance value is lower than the significance level (< 0.05). The computation above showed that the significance value of the pre-test and post-test was

0.89. Thus, the significance value was higher than 0.05. It can be stated that the distribution of pre-test and post-test data is normal.

Table Test of Normality Kolmogorov-Smirnov Using SPPS 25 of Control Group

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Unstandardized Residual
N		30
Normal Parameters[a]	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	7.34426089
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.115
	Positive	.115
	Negative	-.063
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z		.631
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.821

a. Test distribution is Normal.

The table below shows the results of calculations using SPSS 16.0. From the results of the above calculations, it can be seen that the significance value (Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)) is higher than 0.05 (0.82 > 0.05). This means that the data is normal. The histogram above shows more clearly the normality of the experimental and control group post-test data. After knowing that the data distribution, the researcher computed the test pf homogeneity using SPSS 16.0 by applied F-test. The result of F-test was as follows:

Table Test of Homogeneity of Variance Using SPSS 16.0

Test of Homogeneity of Variance

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Score	Based on Mean	.000	1	58	.982
	Based on Median	.000	1	58	1.000
	Based on Median and with adjusted df	.000	1	57.508	1.000
	Based on trimmed mean	.001	1	58	.971

From the table 27, the researcher found that the test of homogeneity based on the result (Sig.) was 0.982 at a significance level of 5% (0.05). F grade (Sig. = 0.982) higher than 0.05 (0.98 > 0.05). Hence the variance of the control group and the experimental group is homogeneous.

The researcher obtained 51.60 as the pre-test of the experimental group and 51.07 as the mean of the pre-test of the control group and 67.07 as the mean of the post-test of the experimental group and 62.80 as the mean of the post-test of the control group by calculating using SPSS 16.0. When the two means were compared, it was seen that the mean of the post-test of the experimental group was greater than the mean of the post-test of the control group, the difference in the mean values of the pre-test and post-test was also greater for the experimental group than the control group. The result of SPSS computation to find out the independent-samples test can be seen in the following table:

***Table 4.16** Result of Independent Samples Test Using SPSS 16.0*

Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means					95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	Lower	Upper
Score	Equal variances assumed	.066	.798	2.297	58	.025	4.267	1.858	.548	7.985
	Equal variances not assumed			2.297	57.799	.025	4.267	1.858	.548	7.986

Based on the Table 28, the t-value is 2.297 in the equal variances assumed besides 2.297 on equal variances not assumed. Sig. (2-tailed) is 0.02 on equal variances assumed and 0.02 on equal variances not assumed. It can be concluded that the t-value is 2.297 at a significance level of 0.02. That means there is a significant difference between the post-test of experimental class and control class. In short, hypothesis statement (Ha) is accepted because Sig. (2-tailed) both at the same variance are assumed and the same variance is not assumed lower than 0.05 (0.02<0.05).

3.3 Discussion

In this part of the thesis, the researcher will discuss more deeply about the data got and the result of the computation in order to answer the formulation of the problem stated in chapter I and also the hypothesis. Below is the discussion of the data analysis done in the previous section of the chapter:

1) Descriptive Analysis
   a. Pre-test
   Before being given treatment using the Hello English application, the researcher conducted a pre-test in the experimental group and the control group. The results of the pre-test showed that in the experimental group, out of 30 students, there was 0 student who scored 80-100. 2 students scored 66-79. 8 students scored 56-65. 20 students got a score of 40-55, and 0 student got a score of >39 based on the assessment scale criteria. Meanwhile, if seen from the mean pre-test value of the experimental group, a value of 51.60 was obtained and it could be categorized as not good based on the criterion reference scale. In the control group, dominant students obtained scores of 40-55 (19 students) and 55-65 (9 students). While the rest got a score of 66-79 (2 students). Then, looking at the mean pre-test score for the control group, the score was 51.07 and could be categorized as poor based on the criteria reference scale.

   b. Post-test
   After a series of meetings held for both the experimental and control groups, the researchers held a post-test which aimed to determine changes in students' vocabulary mastery. Researchers want to know whether the ability to increase, survive, or decrease. The post-test results of the experimental group obtained scores in the very good category for 3 students (10%). There are 12 (40%) good categories and 15 (50%) sufficient categories. Judging from the change in scores, significant changes occurred in the very good category (80-100) because in the pre-test the number of students who got a score of 80-100 was 0 and in the post-test the number of students who got a score of 80-100 was 3. It became 3. students who fall into this category. Then, looking at the mean score, there is a significant increase, namely from 51.60 to 67.07. Then, the average post-test score of experimental group students can be categorized as good based on the referenced criteria scale.

2) Inferential Analysis
   This discussion is based on the calculation of the inferential analysis in the previous section of this thesis. To determine which hypothesis to accept, researcher use the Sig. (2-tailed) test formula as the main formula. This formula is used when the data is normally distributed and when the data is not normally distributed, the researcher will use a non-parametric formula, namely the Spearman rank order. However, before using the formula, researcher must conduct two initial tests, namely normality test and homogeneity test. The first test is the normality test. From the results of the normality test calculation using the Sig. (2-tailed), it was found that the post-test data from the experimental and control groups were normally distributed. From the results of the homogeneity calculation, it was found that both calculated data (pre-test of experimental group and control group) had the same variance or homogeneous. From the SPSS 16.0 results obtained 0.02, it is obtained that 0.02<0.05. From this data, it can be stated that the data is homogeneous. After knowing that the data is normally distributed and homogeneous, the researcher uses the Sig. (2-tailed), formula to answer the problem formulation and determine which hypothesis will be accepted.

3) Descriptive Analysis and Inferential Analysis and Their Implication
   Descriptive analysis and inferential analysis are both used to describe data and make generalizations about populations from existing samples. Inferential analysis is used to make inferences about an unknown population. Although descriptive analysis is only used to describe known characteristics of a sample or population, both are important to help us understand the information better. Therefore, researcher can also identify problems more precisely. Thus, the

researcher can quickly devise strategies to solve the problem. If only one is used, it is certainly not appropriate because it will lead to misleading information and interpretation.

4 CONCLUSIONS

From the description of the data, data analysis and discussion, the researcher concludes that there are two main points in this thesis.

1) The students' speaking skill in the experimental group was in the good category, while the students' speaking skill in the control group was categorized as sufficient based on the reference scale criteria. Based on the data obtained by researcher in the pre-test and post-test, the mean score of the experimental group was good and the average score of the control group was sufficient.

2) It was found that there was a significant increase in students' speaking skill because the most of students were in the excellent category in their speaking skill from previously being in the fairly sufficient category. It can be concluded that the Hello English application can have a significant influence on students' speaking skill. This is also supported by the results of the pre-test and post-test of students' speaking skill. From the results of the paired test calculations, the two-sided significance value (2-tailed). When compared with the significance level, the calculation results show that the two-sided significance value is lower than the significance level. From calculations using SPSS 16.0 showing a lower significance value, it can be concluded that the Alternative Hypothesis (Ha) is accepted and the Null Hypothesis (Ho) is rejected. From these findings, because (Ha) was accepted, the researcher concluded that the Hello English application was effective in improving students' speaking skill.

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