

## **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAKE APPLICATION IN LEARNING ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

In this modern era, technology is really important to use in daily life. Nowadays technology used by young learners for study and it can help teachers and students execute learning activities. There are several apps currently available that can make it easier for students to learn, one example of the application to learn speaking is cake application. Speaking is one of the most important skills in learning English and a skill practiced in speaking is how to pronounce words properly and correctly. As mentioned earlier, there are several applications to enhance students' ability to learn speaking, one of them is cake application. Cake application is application that can be used for learning English. Cake Learn English for Free is developed by Playlist Corporation Cake - Learn English for Free in the category of Education. There are several features in this application such as watching short movie and practicing speaking by using dialogue. This study is aimed to find out: (1) the use of Cake application in learning speaking; (2) students' responses toward Cake application as a learning media; and (3) benefit of Cake application in learning speaking. This is a qualitative research. The instruments on this research used questionnaire and interview. The findings indicate that the students are comfortable and interested to learn speaking using cake application.

***Keywords: Speaking Skills, learning speaking, Mobile application, Cake application***

### **INTRODUCTION**

Language has an important function for communication. With language, people can recognize and communicate what they feel and think. Every country has its own language. For instance, English is an international language since it is used in every country as a foreign language. When we learn English, we must be able to enhance four skills there are speaking, writing, reading and listening. We need to learn language for communication and the way that we can communicate is speaking. According to Chandran (2011) as cited in Natsir (2016), one of the way in communication is through speaking.

Speaking is an important skill to enhance language learning. Speaking is a tool to communicate ideas that are arranged and developed accordance with listener's need (Tarigan, 1987 cited in Heriansyah, 2012). Speaking is very difficult to learn for several foreign language learners. Nunan (1991), as cited in Heriansyah, (2012) states that for most people mastering speaking skill is the single most important aspect of learning a second or foreign language and success is measured in terms of the ability to carry out a conversation in the language. There are some difficulties faced by students when learning speaking like pronunciation, fluency, intonation, fillers word, and accuracy, shy and not confident. Therefore, as an English teacher we must get our students to practice speaking every day and give them feedback on each practice so that students can understand the results received and correct their mistakes.

Nowadays, there are many applications for students and teachers in language learning. The use of application in teaching learning process can help teacher to explore more and get new

techniques. One of applications that can help students in learning speaking is Cake application. Cake application is a free application developed by Cake Corp which is released on 22 March 2018. This application has so many features for learning English such as speaking tool to practice speaking using dialogue, watching video to enhance speaking skills, and guess fill in the blank and comparing the right answer to help memorize each expression. One of each feature is speaking practice that stimulate conversation with native speaker. Taking that into consideration the authors chose this application to be analysed.

There have been so many researches done before regarding the use of application in utilizing language teaching-and learning process such as about the influence of mobile applications on students' speaking skill and critical thinking in English language learning (Kusmaryani, Musthafa & Purnawarman, 2019). This research shows that mobile assisted learning especially in language learning gives both benefits and challenges in optimizing students' outputs toward learning targets. They investigated the influence of mobile applications as learning assistance which can help students improve their speaking skill and critical thinking in English language learning. Mobile applications used were online dictionary, language translator, speaking English, English grammar, speech to text, critical thinking, WhatsApp, Google chrome, YouTube, Weebly, and Gmail. Technology in the form of mobile learning applications provides opportunities to both the teacher and the students in improving the quality of teaching and learning. It is applicable for any subject by selecting appropriate mobile learning applications.

Second research comes from Nurazizah, Frihatin & Sugiarto (2019) about Whatsapp Voice Note in Speaking Class. This research shows that WhatsApp voice note in teaching speaking on narrative text and investigating the perspective on WhatsApp voice note to improve speaking skill on narrative text. In conducting this study, the researcher used qualitative approach with case study was applied as a research design in this study. The results of this study showed that nine steps were used by the teacher in the teaching and learning process through WhatsApp voice note in speaking class on narrative text. Meanwhile, most of the students gave their positive response toward the teaching and learning process. The teacher argued that WhatsApp voice note is a useful tool to provide the students opportunities to speak especially on narrative text and the students can share information easily. Based on the findings, it can be concluded that learning to speak English using WhatsApp voice note is an attractive learning activity, positive activity, and WhatsApp voice note is easy to use.

Third research was conducted by Saripudin et al., (2020) entitled "The Implementation of Orai Application in Teaching Speaking to Senior High School Students". This research reveals that the teacher applied several main steps in using Orai application: introducing the application, explaining the purpose of Orai application in teaching speaking, downloading and installing the application, practicing speaking by using Orai application and getting feedbacks from the application. The application helps the teacher by giving instant feedbacks such as clarity, total filler words, pausing score, and energy score. In this case, the students were enthusiastic when the teacher implemented the application.

This research is focusing on the use cake application for learning speaking, students' responses when using cake application and the benefits of cake application in learning speaking. Qualitative research method was chosen to conduct this research.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS**

There are some theories underpinning the current research. Those cover theories on speaking skills, learning speaking, Mobile application, Cake application as follow:

## **Speaking Skills**

Speaking is one of the skills that student must master while learning English. We can connect with other people by speaking. According to Thornbury (2005) as cited in Kusumaryani (2019) Speaking is a part of daily life that we take it for granted. Speaking is one of the skills that is not easy to master as a foreign language learner because we have to be able to speak with fluency. In spoken English, speaking would promote the production of fluency (Rivers, 2004) as cited in Hurinah (2015). We must also pay attention to grammar, precision, and word fillers while learning to speak. Natsir (2016) state that speaking is the ability that requires the process of communicative competence, pronunciation, intonation, grammar and vocabulary.

## **Learning Speaking**

When we teach speaking, we must be able to grasp the concepts of speaking instruction. According to Anuradha, et al. (2014) as cited in Hussain (2018) there are several principles in teaching and learning speaking such as:

1. Encourage students to speak right from the first day. If not, as early as possible and not to wait till she teaches them a stock of words, phrases or sentences.
2. Tolerate the students if some of them simply repeat what they say.
3. If a student gives one word answer to any question, bear it for the time being.
4. Let the learners speak actively with whatever English knowledge they have.
5. Propose structures/phrases/words and let the learners use it in different situation and drill as much as possible.
6. Encourage back-chaining or tail-forwarding technique to make long sentences by combining more than ten sentences.
7. Organize role play and pair-work as much as possible and supervise the learners to correct the active ones and activate the passive ones.
8. Be well prepared in advance in terms of lesson planning, activities and tasks.
9. Let the learners commit errors and mistakes at the primary stage. Interruption and correction hinder fluency and discourage the learner.
10. Individual weaknesses should be taken into account and the teacher should be sympathetic in outlook for individual attention.

## **Mobile Application**

Nowadays, using mobile application has become a necessity for human life. Mobile technology is changing the way we live and it is beginning to change the way we learn (Tamhane et al., 2015). To make it possible to learn at anytime and anywhere, learning can be created in a number of ways: people can access educational tools, interact with others, or build content, both in and outside classrooms, using mobile devices. Mobile learning also involves initiatives to encourage broad educational priorities, such as efficient school system management and better connectivity between schools and families.

## **Cake Application**

### **Understanding Cake – Learn English for Free App**

Cake - Learn English for Free is developed by Playlist Corporation and the latest version of Cake - Learn English for Free 2.4.1 was updated on Dec 17, 2019. Cake - Learn English for Free is in the category of Education. You can check all apps from the developer of Cake - Learn English for Free and find 96 alternative apps to Cake - Learn English for Free on Android. Currently this app is for free. This app can be downloaded on Android 4.4+ from APKFab or Google Play. All APK / XAPK files on APKFab.com are original and 100% safe with fast download.

In this APP people also can learn real English from videos. There are fun, short English conversation videos updated every day so users can learn English fast and it is completely free.

1. Users can learn real English expressions curated from YouTube and see similar phrases in one place and spend just a few minutes a day to improve your English.
2. “Cake” app offers speaking practices that simulate conversations with native speakers.
3. It can be used to check pronunciation with AI speech recognition. Simply record voice and we get immediate feedback.
4. “Cake” app is completely free and there are no annoying ads.

### **Basic Features of Cake – Learn English for Free AAP**

Based on explanation above this app can be downloaded on google playstore. To access this app, you have to sign in first. You can sign in using your Facebook account or using your google account, you can also use guest mode which is you do not need to sign in but, when you use guest mode, only free episodes (material for speaking practice) are available.

To start speaking course in this application touch the microphone symbol on the bottom and decide what level you want to learn then choose the episode or topic that you need to learn, each episode costs 10 coins. When you sign in you will get 30 coins to open the episodes of speaking course, several things to know:

1. Coins are used to buy individual episodes in speak.
2. Coins are not for sale. They are given when you use speak while logged in.
3. The number of coins you get will depend on how many coins you spend, the more you spent, the more you get.
4. You can save up to 50 coins, and cannot receive more coins beyond that

In the speaking course you need listening to the conversation first then, you are asked to speak based on the conversation that you have listened. This app will automatically correct your pronunciation, if your pronunciation is wrong, the word will be striped and red. You can repeat the conversation until you have the right pronunciation.

## **METHOD**

Qualitative approach is the methodology used by the writers. Qualitative research is best suited to address a research problem in which you do not know the variables and need to explore (Creswell, 2012). And that qualitative study is a method that uses a number of data sources to explain and find out the social problem from the participant’s point of view. Based on Creswell (2013), qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. The qualitative was considered suitable as an approach for finding the answer to the research question of this study.

Qualitative research is typically associated with words, language and experiences instead of measurement, statistics and numerical figures (Pitriana, 2012). The data were collected through interview, and open-ended questionnaire. Creswell (2008) also explains that the number of individuals and locations being sampled varies from one qualitative analysis to the next. You might review some published qualitative studies to see what number of researchers used sites and participants. The population is also the group of individuals you want to find out about by doing your research. Therefore, there must be populations that will be studied in performing this study.

### **Participants**

The participants of this research are students from IX junior high school. This research was carried out in the first semester and academic year of 2020-2021. In this case, the interview used 6

questions to investigate teacher perception, implementation and assessment. Last, the questionnaire used 6 questions to know students' response.

### **Instrument**

To obtain the data, the researcher used two instruments namely interview and open-ended questionnaire. Each instrument is explained below.

#### **1. Interview**

Interview is data collecting implemented by giving questions to the respondent based on the subject of the research. According to Kumar (2005) Interview was conducted for data collection in qualitative research. The researcher posed interviews to students as the participants to collect data using audio recorder to anticipate something missing or forgotten in transferring the data and help the researcher as interviewer in gaining data more detailed during interview.

#### **2. Questionnaire**

Questionnaire was another data collection in this research. According to Arikunto (1996, p. 128) "questionnaire is some written question used to get the information from respondent about their personality or anything that she/he knows". This research used open-ended questionnaire to get general description about learning speaking through cake application. Arikunto (1996, p.128) stated that open-ended questionnaire (unstructured questionnaire) gives the respondents freedom to reveal their opinions and attitude. The researcher gave 6 questions to participants in Indonesia language, to answers the all research questions.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter discusses the data obtained from interview and questionnaire; the data used to answer all of the research questions. The first question investigated the implementation of learning speaking by using cake application, the second was the strengths and weaknesses of implementation of in learning speaking through cake application, and then the third the students' responses in learning speaking through cake application.

### **The Implementation of Cake Application in Speaking Learning**

The implementation cake application in speaking learning ran well. It can be seen from the result of interview data, and questionnaire data that the implementation in leaning speaking through cake application was suitable instructional media for students because implementing cake application helps students in learning speaking and foster their speaking skill. It is shown that students were enthusiastic during learning process and students told their stories about memorable experience expressively and confidently in their learning activity. Interview and questionnaire also show that the implementation of cake application helps students in learning speaking and foster their speaking skill.

### **The Strengths and the Weaknesses of Cake Application in Learning Speaking**

There are several strengths of implementations in learning speaking through cake application, this app is suitable to improve the speaking skill because the main feature of this app is speaking course, this app also provides you some videos from many channels that you can watch and speak practice with its keyword. You can use this app as your media in teaching Speaking skill because with this app you can check your students' pronunciation then you will know whether your students have a good pronunciation or not. You can also choose students level from this app and match your students' level; the level is from basic to advanced.

The implementations in learning speaking through cake application has two weaknesses, such as the students have to go through several steps to create a good pronunciation, the students should have adequate facilities like smartphones, laptops or computer, and good internet connection. The collected data showed three strengths and a weakness of implementation in learning speaking through cake application.

### **The Students' Responses to The Learning Speaking through Cake Application**

The students' responses to the learning speaking through cake application were positive, none of the negative students' responses in learning speaking through cake application. It can be seen from the students' attitude during the learning process. Most of students seemed very enthusiastic when the teacher explained the materials above. Cake application makes students interested in learning speaking because cake application is a great instructional media for teacher and students. Data from interview and questionnaire showed various positive students' responses toward learning speaking through cake application.

### **CONCLUSION**

Speaking is the productive aural/ oral skill, it consists of producing systematic verbal utterances to convey meaning. Cake Learn English for Free app is really suitable to improve the speaking skill because the main feature of this app is speaking course, this app also provides you some videos from many channels that you can watch and speak practice with its keyword. You can use this app as your media in teaching Speaking skill because with this app you can check your student's pronunciation then you will know whether your students have a good pronunciation or not.

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