

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Because our ears pick up on individual sounds like letters, stress, and rhythm, and our brains translate them into meaningful information, listening is not only a process of paying attention to what someone says, but also an essential universal skill. One of the most important and useful abilities in both language study and daily life is listening. Listening is an integral part of the language, including not just sounds but also words and structures.

Morley and Rost (2001) argue that listening is the most crucial linguistic ability for language learners to acquire because it is the most directly applicable to real-world situations and advances more rapidly than other linguistic abilities. It's true that improving your listening abilities in any language requires practice and concentration.

Nowadays, one of the streaming services in the form of voice broadcasts that is currently in demand is Podcasts. Starting from the era of Youtube, Spotify, Netflix and so on. Podcast have also slowly gained popularity since 2018 brought by Apple Podcast and Spotify. Several foreign Youtubers have begun to explore media Podcast, because in the media Podcast the discussion is very various kinds and varied of topics that we can choose according to our favorite genres such as news, sports talks, mysteries, talk shows, music, comedy, arts, and entertainment, to everyday experiences or chats from speakers that are on Podcasts. In addition, Podcast is an audio file similar to a radio show that can be downloaded and listen to it on your computer or MP3 player. Support theory by Robinson (2009), the

term Podcast is a combination of two words : Pod means iPod- the name of popular MP3 Player and cast means Broadcasting.

Podcasting was related to better listening skills significantly. Podcasting was shown to improve listener retention and comprehension. In addition, students of English as a foreign language (EFL) have been shown to benefit considerably by listening to podcasts (Salehi, H. 2019). Podcasts, which may be automatically downloaded from a free Podcast website or application, provide students a chance to practice listening in a self-directed way, as stated by Rosa, M. S., Fitriana, H., & Zulfiana, R. (2020). Podcasts are lauded for their ability to provide students more listening practice in and out of the classroom, particularly in regards to developing their English listening abilities.

Abdulrahman (2018) claims that podcasts have a crucial impact in education since they help students become better listeners. Podcasts may be an effective teaching tool if instructors are well-versed in its usage and are able to help students find relevant content that will help them achieve their goals. Time, access to technology, and a tech-savvy educator are just a few of the factors that should be taken into account before deciding to use podcasts in an English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classroom.

Hence, based on those reasons, the writer chose this topic to be investigated. Previous studies about the use of Podcast as media for teaching listening have been done by some researchers: Prasetyo (2014), Situmorang (2020), and Alfian (2019). They aim to know the significant difference in students listening comprehension before and after being taught by using Podcast. The following chapter contains the entire information. In some of the previous research mentioned above, many aspect

of Podcast as Media for teaching and learning have been identified by other researchers. Yet, no study have been identified about the use of Podcast as Media for teaching listening to university students’.

1.2 Research Questions

1. Is there any significant difference in the students' listening comprehensions before and after being taught by using Podcast Media?
2. What do the students experiencing after using podcasts as a media for learning listening?

1.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of the research is to find out whether is there any significant difference in students' listening comprehensions before and after being taught by using Podcast media and students experience after using Podcast media in listening and speaking for academic purposes course at the University of Jambi.

1.4 Research Limitation

Based on the background of this research, The researcher decided this study is to know the use of podcast as media for listening and the students experiences after using Podcast as media for learning listening which focused on the listen in detail information by using monologue audio podcasts on the Podbean application, which using a type of one way listening and only use the material taken from Podbean application. The sample of this study are second semesters students of English study program at University of Jambi, academic year 2022/2023.

1.5 Significance of the Research

By the end of this research, the researcher hopes can benefits the other about Podcast as media for listening.

1. Give contribution to English Language learners and provide further informations for students and readers.
2. The result of this study contribute to lectures who will teach in Listening class by using Podcast media as a new way for teaching listening.
3. This research can be beneficial for other researchers who have interest in conducting research using podcast as media for listening or other language skills. They also can continue this study on different aspects or issues.

1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

a) Listening

Listening is one of the key components of successful communication, listening is a crucial part of both language learning and teaching. Understanding our surroundings is another benefit of listening.

b) Podcast

Podcasting combines audio blogging and online audio publication into a single format that can be downloaded to an MP3 device or PC and listened to on the go. Podcasts, on the other hand, provide a 'real-life listening' source from which all learners of a foreign language may benefit.

c) Listening Comprehensions

Listening comprehension is the process of decoding and making sense of what is being said. A listener's role in building meaning throughout the listening comprehension process.