

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.3 Background of The Research

All individuals need to possess four essential language skills in order to effectively communicate with others: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Developing these skills is a fundamental objective in English language education. Among the four skills, speaking holds significant importance as it is crucial for successful communication in any language. According to Bygate (2003), speaking skill refers to the capacity to express ideas, intentions, thoughts, and emotions orally, ensuring that listeners convey the message clearly and comprehend well. Although acquiring proficiency in speaking is often challenging, many English learners aspire to enhance their speaking abilities.

Teaching speaking is challenging for educators as it requires students to develop and practice their speaking skills independently. In order to effectively teach speaking, teachers need to employ various strategies to ensure students' comprehension and accurate oral expression. One effective approach is to utilize appropriate instructional media to facilitate materials delivery. By incorporating media, teachers can enhance the accessibility of the content and facilitate the achievement of teaching objectives.

According to Nunan, as cited in Kayi (2006:1), teaching speaking involves instructing learners to (1) produce accurate English speech sounds and patterns, (2) construct meaningful words and sentences, (3) employ proper stress, intonation, and rhythm in the second language, (4) choose suitable words and sentences based on social context, audience, situation, and topic, (5) express values through

language, and (6) develop fluency in communication by speaking the language smoothly, rapidly, and with minimal pauses.

As mentioned by Sinha (2019, as cited in Ai Siti Maryam 2021), the cake application offers a captivating recording feature that allows users to listen to engaging content. This application proves to be highly effective in English language learning and can effectively engage students. It provides a wide range of videos that teach English terms, idioms, and new vocabulary, which can be applied in daily conversations. Teachers can utilize various features of this application to facilitate student learning.

Technology is now growing quickly, which is evident in the education sector. Technology enables learning activities that are self-directed, self-paced, private, and safe environments where mistakes may be fixed and detailed feedback can be given. Studies demonstrate the significance of qualitative feedback in software.

Playlist Corporation created Cake Learn English for Free. Cake - Learn English for Free is a free education app. This application includes several features, such as watching a short movie and practising speaking through dialogue. The Cake is a free application developed by Cake Corp that was released on March 22, 2018. This application includes proper speech recognition. They can record their voices. As a result of this application's feedback, they will know which words are incorrect and should be pronounced. Every recording of the learners will be graded A if all words are correctly pronounced, B, C, or D if there is a mistake in pronunciation. Another advantage of using this application to learn to speak is that many English expressions, terms, and idioms are useful and must be known by English learners

in short movie scripts or audio. This application teaches Speaking English and listening, grammar, and vocabulary.

In the present situation, education in Indonesia has begun to adapt to using technology as a medium for learning activities. For example, learning activities are now beginning to incorporate learning-supporting applications such as Whatsapp, Zoom, Google Meet, and Google Classroom. Currently, applications are available to assist us in learning four areas of English (reading, listening, speaking, and writing). Specifically, the CAKE APP application can be used to learn or improve speaking skills.

This application is very interesting to use and also has the potential to be a medium that can help make learning easier and access to knowledge in English also more interesting. The usefulness of this application attracts researchers to make researchers towards this application.

Learning activities in Indonesia are becoming more flexible and efficient for students as technology advances. Students can study and gain knowledge independently by using various apps on their smartphone devices to explore or study a field, such as learning to speak English.

This explanation shows that incorporating the cake application as a learning tool is beneficial for students, particularly in enhancing their English speaking skills. However, it is important to note that the impact of using this application may vary among students, leading the researcher to investigate "**The Use of Cake Application for Speaking Skills of Eleventh Graders in SMA AL – Falah Kota Jambi.**" The researcher aims to examine the effects of utilizing the cake application on students' learning process and their proficiency in spoken English.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the preceding background information, the research questions can be formulated as follows:

1. Is there any significant effect of using the cake application on the eleventh-grader speaking skill of SMA Al – Falah Jambi?
2. Which ability has the most effect from this cake application?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

1. This study aims to find out whether cake application affects eleventh graders speaking skills in SMA Al-Falah Jambi City.
2. This research also aims to find out what skills are most improved in eleventh grade students of SMA Al-Falah Jambi City with the use of Cake Application.

1.4 Limitations of the Research

This study specifically focuses on investigating the impact of the cake application on the development of speaking skills. The experimental group will receive instruction on utilizing the cake application, while the control group will be using the conventional teaching methods. This conventional learning method is learning by using intense books, with little use of technology. The curriculum will be aligned with the content covered in the school textbook. The participants in this research will consist of eleventh-grade students from SMA AL-FALAH Jambi.

1.5 Significance of the Research

This study aims to support teachers' and students' English teaching and learning endeavors. Firstly, it is expected that the findings of this study will present English teachers with alternative approaches for instructing speaking skills.

Secondly, the insights gained from this research will aid students in actively participating in the learning process while addressing their challenges in achieving speaking proficiency. By utilizing the cake application, students will be encouraged to put in a dedicated effort to enhance their speaking clarity and develop their oral communication skills. They are expected to enjoy learning English in this engaging and enjoyable environment.

1.6 The Definition of Key Term

1. Cake application

Developed by Playlist Corporation, the Cake application has gained significant popularity as an Android mobile app. Its primary purpose is to assist individuals in improving their speaking abilities, providing them with the necessary confidence and skills to deliver powerful speeches on stage, address the public, or engage in everyday conversations. As Sinha (2019) stated, this application offers the unique feature of allowing users to listen to their recordings, making the learning experience enjoyable and productive. It is an exceptional tool for learning to speak English, utilizing videos to exemplify highly relevant words for daily communication.

2. Speaking skills

According to Rivers in Erwadi (2004: 7), what the students need in a target language is the skill to use the language in acts of communication, because speaking is a very complex and different skill to learn especially by the foreign language students. In other words, learning to speak a foreign language will be facilitated when students are active to communicate, because there is a proverb which says that we learn to read by reading and we learn to speak by speaking. Speaking is a

language skill or means of communication in which one can express his/her idea, feeling and information to others orally. Speaking skill needs direct interactions, in which someone speak to someone directly.

1.7 Hypothesis

This study will examine two hypotheses: the null hypothesis (Ho) and the alternative hypothesis (Hi).

Ho = There is no effect on students' speaking skills and those who are taught with cake application.

Hi = There is an effect on students' speaking skills and those who are taught with cake application.