



The Effect Of "The English We Speak" Podcast To The Eleventh Grade Students Listening Ability SMAN 6 Kediri 2023/2024

Raynata Alfis Firmansyah¹, Yunik Susanti², Suhartono³,
Universitas Nusantara PGRI Kediri¹, Universitas Nusantara PGRI Kediri²,
Universitas Nusantara PGRI Kediri³,
raynata.alfis@gmail.com¹, yuniksusanti@unpkediri.ac.id²,
suhartono.unp@gmail.com³

ABSTRACT

Listening is a crucial skill for beginners to learn a new language, and podcasts with the theme "The English we Speak" can improve classroom learning atmospheres. This study uses quantitative methods, which are inductive, objective, and scientific, to analyze data in the form of scores, values, or statements. The students' average pre-test score was 63.57, and post-test score was 79.57. The results indicate a significant effect of treatment on students' listening skills, according to the three aspects discussed in chapter two: main idea, explicit meaning, and implied meaning. Podcasts are considered a significant learning support media, as they encourage students to practice and learn how to practice correctly. The use of podcasts for listening skills is highly significant, as they help students improve their listening skills and enhance their overall language learning experience.

Keywords: The English We Speak Podcast, Listening Ability, And Teaching Listening

ABSTRAK

Mendengarkan adalah keterampilan penting bagi pemula untuk belajar bahasa baru, dan podcast dengan tema "The English we Speak" dapat meningkatkan suasana belajar di kelas. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kuantitatif, yang bersifat induktif, obyektif, dan ilmiah, untuk menganalisis data berupa skor, nilai, atau pernyataan. Nilai rata-rata pre-test siswa adalah 63,57, dan nilai post-test adalah 79,57. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan adanya pengaruh yang signifikan dari perlakuan terhadap kemampuan menyimak siswa, sesuai dengan tiga aspek yang dibahas di bab dua: ide utama, makna tersurat, dan makna tersirat. Podcast dianggap sebagai media pendukung pembelajaran yang signifikan, karena mendorong siswa untuk berlatih dan belajar bagaimana cara berlatih yang benar. Penggunaan podcast untuk keterampilan menyimak sangat signifikan, karena podcast membantu siswa meningkatkan keterampilan menyimak dan meningkatkan pengalaman belajar bahasa mereka secara keseluruhan.

Kata Kunci: The English We Speak Podcast, Kemampuan mendengarkan, dan Pengajaran Mendengarkan

BACKGROUND

Listening ability is one of the fundamental skills essential in the process of learning a language, including English. It involves the ability to receive, understand, interpret, and respond to messages delivered orally. In the context of formal education, students' listening skills are often of particular concern as they support other skills such as speaking, reading, and writing. Therefore, efforts to improve students' listening skills have always been a primary focus in English language teaching in schools.

At SMAN 6 Kediri, students' English listening skills are still relatively low. Based on initial observations, many students have difficulty understanding conversations or speeches in English. This is caused by several factors, such



as a lack of exposure to spoken English, less varied teaching methods, and low student motivation in learning to listen.

Listening is not only limited to hearing the words spoken but also involves understanding the meaning, nuances, intonation, and expressions used by the speaker. To have good listening skills, it requires high focus, willingness to understand other people's points of view, and the ability to distinguish relevant information and ignore unnecessary distractions (Liu, 2019).

In English language learning, the language acquisition process can occur when the input received can be understood by students. This comprehensible input can be obtained through speech that has a clear meaning. To understand the learning input, students can be helped with their mastery of grammar that they have learned before, knowledge of the world, explanation, and translation assistance in the teaching-learning process (Yousef, 2021).

The English classroom has great potential as a major source of comprehensible input for students, especially if they have limited access to informal environments. Teachers can facilitate instructional input in several ways suggested by Krashen (2002). First, teachers can articulate words more slowly and clearly to make it easier for students to identify them. Second, the use of more vocabulary, reducing the use of complex slang and idioms. Third, simplification of syntax and the use of shorter sentences.

The role of teachers is very important in achieving educational goals and improving the quality of education in schools (Riowati & Yoenanto, 2022). Teachers act as facilitators who create conducive learning conditions for students. In addition, teachers also act as assigners and assessors. Therefore, it is important for teachers to carry out teaching tasks well in order to have an impact on improving students' listening skills. Lesson planning, including the use of media, is important for a teacher before teaching.

One innovative solution that can be used to enhance listening skills and overall English proficiency is the use of the podcast 'The English We Speak'. This podcast was chosen because it has relevant and engaging content for students and can be easily accessed through technological devices owned by students. 'The English We Speak' podcast is part of the podcast series produced by BBC Learning English, which focuses on the use of English in everyday contexts. Through this podcast, students are expected to improve their listening skills in a more enjoyable and effective manner.

The main goal of "The English We Speak" podcast is to introduce listeners to authentic and commonly used English conversations and expressions in everyday life. Each episode focuses on a particular phrase, idiom, or expression, and provides explanations, examples, and usage tips to help learners understand and incorporate those linguistic elements into their own communication. "The English We Speak" podcast encourages active engagement from its listeners. Each episode includes interactive segments



where learners are encouraged to practice using the taught expressions, participate in role plays, and engage in exercises that encourage active listening and comprehension. This interactive approach creates a dynamic and immersive learning experience.

Based on research conducted by Hasan & Hoon (2013), Harahap (2020), and Hajar et al. (2020), it was found that podcast applications improved students' English listening skills and students recognized the benefits of podcasts in enriching their English knowledge and skills. However, research conducted by Fauziah (2023) stated that using podcast media was not effective in developing listening skills using fantasy stories. Unlike these studies, this research uses 'The English We Speak' podcast.

Previous studies have demonstrated the efficacy of various multimedia tools in language learning. For instance, audio-visual aids have been shown to enhance comprehension by providing context through visual cues. Podcasts, in particular, offer a unique advantage as they provide an immersive audio experience, which is crucial for developing listening skills. The portability and accessibility of podcasts make them an ideal tool for continuous learning, as students can listen to episodes during their free time, thus extending the learning environment beyond the classroom.

The content of 'The English We Speak' podcast is carefully curated to align with the everyday language needs of English learners. By exposing students to real-life conversations and commonly used expressions, the podcast helps bridge the gap between textbook English and actual spoken English. This exposure is particularly beneficial for students at SMAN 6 Kediri, who have limited opportunities to engage with native speakers or authentic English media.

Moreover, the repetitive nature of podcast episodes allows for reinforcement of language structures and vocabulary. This repetition is crucial in helping students internalize new expressions and use them confidently in their own speech. The podcast also employs a conversational tone, making the content relatable and easier to comprehend.

This study aims to evaluate the effect of using the 'The English We Speak' podcast on the listening skills of grade XI students at SMAN 6 Kediri. Specifically, this study aims to determine:

1. Students' listening skills before being taught using the podcast.
2. Students' listening skills after being taught using the podcast.
3. The effect of using 'The English We Speak' podcast on students' listening skills.

To achieve these objectives, a mixed-methods approach will be employed, combining quantitative data from pre-tests and post-tests with qualitative data from student interviews and observations. This comprehensive approach will provide a detailed understanding of how the podcast influences listening skills and identify specific areas of improvement.



By understanding the results of this study, it is hoped that it can make a positive contribution to the development of English teaching methods, particularly in improving students' listening skills. The findings could potentially guide educators in integrating similar multimedia resources into their teaching practices, ultimately enhancing the overall quality of English language education.

In conclusion, "The English We Speak" podcast is a valuable resource for English language learners who want to improve their listening and expand their language skills. By providing engaging and authentic content, interactive exercises, and repetition of key language patterns, it supports learners in developing their understanding of natural English conversation and improving overall language fluency. Therefore, this study proposes to investigate the effectiveness of 'The English We Speak' podcast as a tool for improving the listening skills of eleventh-grade students at SMAN 6 Kediri, with the hope of providing a model for integrating innovative educational media into the language learning curriculum.

METHOD

This research uses a quantitative methodology with a pre-experimental design. The quantitative approach was selected as it allows researchers to measure and analyse data in an objective and systematic manner. The pre-experiment design was employed to assess the impact of a treatment (in this case, the utilisation of the 'The English We Speak' podcast) on a specific variable (students' listening skills).

The population under investigation in this study was comprised of all students in grade XI at SMAN 6 Kediri. From this population, the research sample was selected at random in order to ensure that each student had an equal chance of being selected as a research participant. A total of 35 students were selected as the sample group, representing a diverse range of academic and social backgrounds.

The research instrument employed was a listening test comprising two sections: a pre-test and a post-test. The pre-test was conducted prior to the administration of the treatment, while the post-test was conducted subsequent to the conclusion of the treatment. The listening test was designed to assess students' capacity to comprehend spoken English, encompassing three principal elements: the central idea, explicit meaning, and implied meaning.

The data were collected through the administration of listening tests at two distinct points in time: prior to and following the implementation of the treatment. Once the data had been collected, the subsequent step was to analyse it in order to ascertain whether there was a significant difference between the scores obtained in the pre-test and those obtained in the post-test. The data analysis technique employed is the t-test, which is designed to test the hypothesis that there is a significant difference between students'



listening skills before and after treatment. The results of this data analysis will be used to answer the problem formulation that has been set, as well as to draw conclusions regarding the effectiveness of using the 'The English We Speak' podcast in improving students' listening skills.

RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION

1. Description of Research Data

This research was conducted to determine the effect of using the podcast "The English We Speak" on the listening skills of 11th-grade students at SMAN 6 Kediri. The data collected came from the results of pre-test and post-test of students' listening skills.

- a. Listening ability of students before being taught using The English We Speak podcast

The pre-test results indicated that the average score of students' listening skills before the treatment was 63.57. This pre-test score reflects the students' initial ability to understand and process information heard in English.

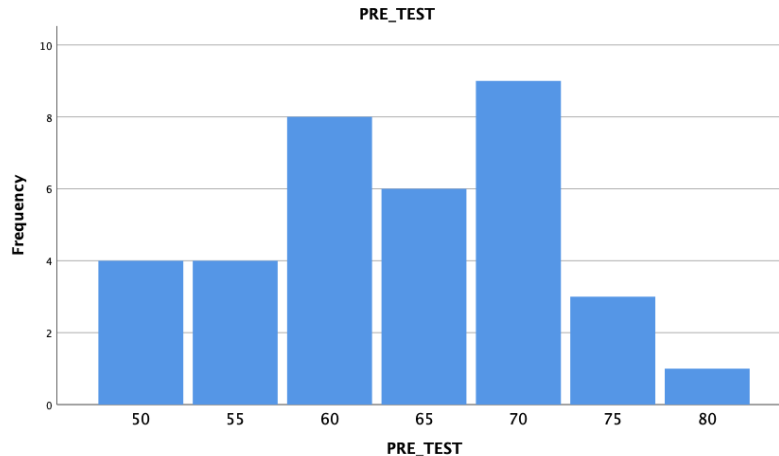


Diagram 4. 1 Diagram Frequency of Post-test

- b. Listening ability of students after being taught using The English We Speak podcast

After being treated with the podcast "The English We Speak," the average post-test score of the students increased to 79.57. This increase signifies a significant improvement in students' listening skills after using the podcast.

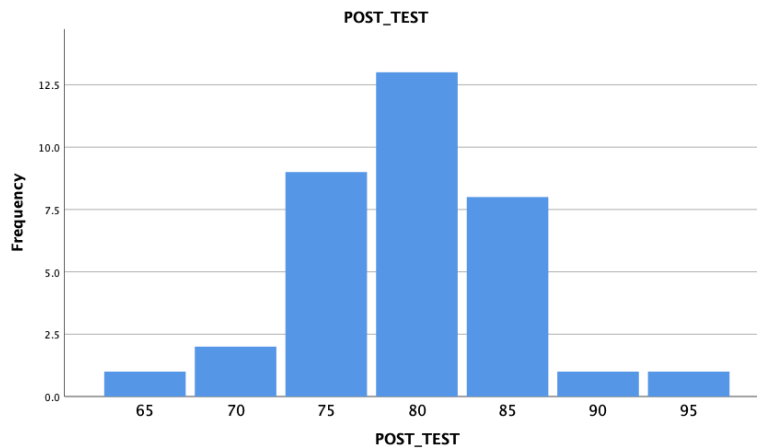


Diagram 4. 2 Diagram Frequency of Post-test

2. Data Analysis

Data analysis was conducted using a t-test to determine the significance of the difference between the pre-test and post-test scores. The t-test results showed that the t-test value was -13.426 with a degree of freedom (df) of 34 and a significance level of 5%. Since the t-test value was greater than the t-table value (-13.426 > 2.032), it can be concluded that there is a significant difference between the students' listening skills before and after using the podcast "The English We Speak."

Table 3.1 Paired Sample Test

Paired Samples Test									
		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	PRE_TEST – POST_TEST	-16.000	7.050	1.192	-18.422	-13.578	-13.426	34	.000

3. Discussion

The results of this study indicate that the use of the podcast "The English We Speak" has a significant impact on improving students' listening skills

a. Enhancing Contextual Understanding

The podcast "The English We Speak" provides relevant and authentic contexts for the use of everyday English. Through this podcast, students can learn common English expressions used in daily conversations. This helps students understand and interpret the meaning from the given context.

b. Practicing Active Listening Skills



The interactive approach of this podcast also provides opportunities for students to practice active listening. Students are encouraged to actively listen, understand, and respond to the information conveyed in the podcast. This involves students in a dynamic and enjoyable learning process.

c. Overall Improvement in Listening Skills

Using podcasts as a medium for listening instruction also contributes to the overall improvement of listening skills. Students become more accustomed to intonation, pronunciation, and sentence structure in English. Additionally, the podcast helps students enrich their vocabulary and enhance their understanding of implicit and explicit meanings in conversations.

d. Implications for Teaching

The findings of this study have important implications for English language teaching in schools. Teachers can use podcasts as an effective medium to improve students' listening skills. Furthermore, using podcasts can make learning more engaging and interactive, thereby increasing students' motivation to learn.

Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that the use of the podcast "The English We Speak" has a significant impact on improving the listening skills of 11th-grade students at SMAN 6 Kediri. Therefore, the use of podcasts as a medium for listening instruction is recommended for English teachers to implement in the classroom learning process.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

1. Conclusion

Based on the results of the research conducted, it can be concluded that the use of the podcast "The English We Speak" has a significant impact on the listening skills of 11th-grade students at SMAN 6 Kediri. The increase in average scores from the pre-test to the post-test indicates that students' listening abilities improved after being taught using this podcast.

The podcast "The English We Speak" has proven effective in enhancing three main aspects of listening skills: comprehension of main ideas, explicit meaning, and implicit meaning. The results of this study show that students are not only able to better understand conversations in English but also feel more confident in using English in everyday contexts.

The successful use of this podcast is supported by several important factors, including relevant and engaging content, exposure to authentic English, the flexibility and accessibility of the medium, and the ability to replay content as needed. All these factors contribute positively to the improvement of students' listening skills.



Thus, it can be concluded that the podcast "The English We Speak" is an effective and innovative learning medium for improving students' listening skills. The use of technology in the learning process has a significant impact on student motivation and learning outcomes.

2. SUGGESTION

a. For Teachers:

- Teachers are encouraged to utilize learning media such as the podcast "The English We Speak" as an alternative for teaching listening skills. The use of this medium can help create a more engaging and interactive learning environment.
- Teachers are also advised to seek and use other innovative learning media relevant to students' needs. For example, using videos, language learning apps, or other digital media accessible to students.
- Additionally, teachers should integrate the use of podcasts with various teaching methods, such as group discussions, listening tasks, and speaking exercises. This aims to increase student engagement and reinforce their understanding of the material being taught.

b. For Students:

- Students are encouraged to use podcasts as a source of independent learning outside the classroom. By regularly listening to podcasts, students can gradually improve their listening skills.
 - Students are also expected to be more proactive in finding other learning media that suit their interests and needs. For example, listening to English songs, watching films or videos, and participating in English learning communities.
 - It is important for students to manage their study time well, so they can optimally utilize various learning media. Additionally, students should engage in diverse learning activities to avoid burnout and enhance learning motivation.

c. For Schools:

- Schools are expected to support the use of technology in the learning process by providing adequate facilities, such as stable internet access, supporting hardware and software, and training for teachers in the use of digital learning media.
 - Schools should also facilitate innovative and creative learning activities, such as workshops, seminars, or training sessions for teachers and students on the use of technology in English learning.
 - Furthermore, schools need to create a conducive learning environment that supports innovation in teaching. This can be



achieved by developing a flexible curriculum that is responsive to technological advancements and student needs.

d. For Future Researchers:

- This study has some limitations, such as a limited sample size and a relatively short research duration. Therefore, future researchers are encouraged to conduct further studies with larger sample sizes and longer durations to obtain more comprehensive results.

- Researchers can also explore the use of other digital learning media, such as language learning apps, e-learning platforms, or social media, to enhance students' English language skills.

- Additionally, further research can be conducted to examine the impact of podcast usage on other aspects of English learning, such as speaking, reading, and writing skills.

It is hoped that the results of this study will contribute positively to the development of English teaching methods and improve the quality of learning in schools.

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