

Chapter One

Introduction

The researcher explains several points in this chapter. The researcher explains the background of the research of this research topic. Then, the researcher identifies the problem. Next, the delimitation of the problem is presented. Furthermore, research questions that will guide this research are also displayed. In addition, the research objective is also added to find out whether English songs on YouTube can improve students' vocabulary. Finally, the researcher shows how the research will be organized.

Background of the Research

English as an international language affects education in Indonesia. However, In Indonesia, English is a language that is learned as a foreign language. Young learners need to study it for future needs. English is very influential to be taught in Indonesia, especially for elementary school students who are still at the early age, so it is good to learn a foreign language. Usually, English is only learned through subjects at school. According to Republic of Indonesia Minister of Education, Culture, Research and Technology Decree No. 56 of 2022 pages 9, English is an elective subject in elementary school that can be arranged according to the readiness of the educational unit (Keputusan Kemdikbudristek RI, 2022). Cognitive development, which is linked to children's activities, objects, and experiences, such as hearing, feeling, and seeing is thought to be the golden age of a children in learning English (Mutiah et al., 2020). English is taught in primary schools with consideration to the demands of society today and the language's

future requirements as a globalized world develops (Widagsa & Khusnia, 2023).

It stands to reason that the age of young learners is appropriate for learning English because their cognitive skills are supportive of acquiring the language and preparing for the future.

Schools that are ready to organize English lessons can teach it for 2 lessons per week for 35 minutes each (Keputusan Kemdikbudristek RI, 2022). It is certainly not easy for young learners to learn a foreign language. It can be seen from the previous Curriculum 13 that English subjects were eliminated in elementary schools which is said to put pressure on them. Indeed, in the implementation of learning English to young learners there are usually difficulties. This is because the characteristics of young learners are different from other learners when learning. Young learners are quickly bored and lose interest after a short period of time (Sokhiba, 2021). Therefore, something different is needed to attract young learners to learn English. One way to overcome this problem is to use learning media that appeals to young learners. Such as the use of fun songs and accompanied by videos using YouTube media.

As technology develops, there are many media that can be used to learn English. According to Dilago et al. (2022), songs are an aspect of the human experience that can provide a more enjoyable and relaxing environment in the classroom. In addition, there is also YouTube as media that develops audio and video in one application so that it can support and be interesting as a learning media. YouTube is an exciting media for learning English since it has moving visual and subtitle features that help students better understand the material

on YouTube, which can improve students' listening, writing, reading, speaking, pronunciation, and vocabulary (Anggrarini and Faturokhman, 2021). Therefore, by listening to English songs through YouTube, young learners usually become more interested and can acquire vocabulary. This tends to be more interesting for young learners than having to read a lot of English material.

Song is an authentic material that can support young learners' language learning process. According to Isnaini & Aminatun (2021), song may help EFL students learn new English words and expand their vocabulary. According to Kurnia (2017), if the song is interesting, young learners will repeat the song so many times. The repetition indirectly helps them to memorize the word or expression. Of course, it is good for young learners to acquire vocabulary subconsciously (p. 44). The utilization of song in English learning seems to be most effective for young learners who need interesting learning. Therefore, apart from being entertainment for young learners, songs can also be used as language learning media to improve vocabulary.

However, although several studies (Dilago et al., 2022; Gushendra, 2017; Hendrawaty & Nurhayati, 2019; Isnaini & Aminatun, 2021) show that young learners improve vocabulary through songs that already exist, most of the focus of these studies is on the effect of songs in learning English, for example language skills and vocabulary. This research has differences with the researchers who have been done before. The researcher in this study focuses on the use of English songs in improving vocabulary in young learners but uses supporting media, namely

YouTube. So that, in this study, researcher not only use audio as learning media but also videos from the YouTube media.

Currently, fourth grade students in one of the state elementary schools in Batang, Central Java find it difficult to learn English due to a lack of vocabulary knowledge. Some of the difficulties experienced by students in this school include limited vocabulary, difficulty in recognizing and remembering new vocabulary, differences in written and spoken vocabulary, and understanding words both in meaning and context of use including in sentences. These difficulties eventually cause students to have difficulty following lessons and answering questions. Meanwhile, one of the state elementary schools in Batang, Central Java has limited learning media and most of the learning uses textbooks. Thus, when learning English, there is a lack of utilization of learning media. Therefore, there is a need for supportive learning media to help learn and improve vocabulary.

Based on the above background, the first is that students have some difficulties in learning vocabulary. Second, the utilization of learning media is needed to support the improvement of students' English language skills. Then, the researcher in this study wants to overcome the problems in learning vocabulary for young learners at the school by trying to do treatment using learning media. Media that can be used such as listening to English songs on YouTube which is likely to improve students' English skills such as vocabulary. Therefore, researcher want to conduct research that aims to find out how English songs if played using YouTube can improve vocabulary.

The Identification of Problem

Vocabulary is an important basic thing when learning a language. However, students have difficulty in following English lessons due to a lack of vocabulary knowledge. In addition, they also experience vocabulary difficulties due to limited vocabulary, difficulty in recognizing and remembering new vocabulary, differences in written and spoken vocabulary, and understanding words both in meaning and context of use including in sentences. Besides that, the school still implement English learning mostly using textbooks and lack of variety in the utilization of media in learning. Therefore, there is a need for learning media that can be utilized to assist language learning.

In fact, learning English for young learners requires interesting media to make them interested in learning. Therefore, listening to English songs is one of the ways as a learning media that can overcome these problems. Using English songs on YouTube that presents visual images as well, it's very interesting for young learners. Therefore, teachers can use English songs by using YouTube to help in teaching the language to the learners. Thus, many young learners acquire English indirectly through English songs including new vocabulary.

The Delimitation of the Problem

Research related to songs has a wide scope. Therefore, researcher in this study focus on the use of YouTube to play English songs for young learners in fourth grade elementary school for improving vocabulary. Then, the age category in this study is around 10 years old.

Research Question

Based on background, the researcher has one research question, “Does the use of English songs on YouTube improve fourth graders’ vocabulary?”

The Objective of the Research

The study aims at finding if the use of English songs on YouTube can improve fourth graders’ vocabulary.

The Significance of the Research

The research is hoped to be able to provide more knowledge for students, teachers, and future researchers.

Students

Students may use this research to apply in language learning. After this research, students can consider whether learning English through English songs on YouTube can help them improve their vocabulary. It is hoped that this research can help students to find out the right media to help learn English.

Teachers

Teachers can obtain information from the results of this study regarding English songs and the use of YouTube as a language learning media for students. After this research, teachers can decide whether using English song and YouTube as effective media can improve students' vocabulary. Then, teachers can apply it in the classroom as an auxiliary medium for learning English.

Future researchers

Future researchers, the results of this study can be a reference for the researchers interested in this topic. Researchers can also make new research on the

same topic as this research with different points of view to expand the reach of research.

The Organization of the Research

The research has five chapters. Chapter one describes the background of the research, the identification of problems, the delimitation of the research, research questions, objectives, and significance of the research, and organization of the research.

The second chapter is literature review. This presents a definition of vocabulary, vocabulary mastery, teaching foreign language to young learners, English song as a language learning media, and English song on YouTube to improve vocabulary.

Chapter three is the methodology. In this chapter, the researcher focuses on the research methodology that is used. This chapter consists of research design, settings, population and sample, methods, instruments, data collection procedure, and analyzing data. This research used a quantitative method with an experimental design.

The fourth chapter consists of findings and discussion. This chapter is the results of the data analysis, the interpretation data, and the discussion of the findings.

Chapter five contains conclusions and recommendations. The chapter has answers to the research questions and recommendations from the researcher. Recommendations are given to students, teachers, and other researchers.