

**PODCAST AND IT CONTRIBUTIONS ON STUDENTS' LISTENING
SKILL**

THESIS

Submitted by

Noora Zikria Zaeda

Reg. No.190203176

Student of Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan

Department of English Language Education



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by:

NOORA ZIKRIA ZAEDA

Reg. No. 190203176

Student of Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan
Department of English Language Education

جامعة الرانيري

A R R A N I R Y

Supervisor,


Prof. Dr. T. Zulfikar, S. Ag., M. Ed.

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Board of Examiner,

Chairperson,


Prof. Dr. T. Zulfikar, M.Ed

Secretary,


Azizah, S.Ag., M.Pd.

Member,


Faishal, S.Pd.I., M.A., Ph.D

Member,


Fithriyah, S.Ag., M. Pd

Certified by,

The Dean of Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan
Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh



Prof. Saiful Muluk, S.Ag., M.Ed., M.A., Ph.D
NIP. 197301021997031003

DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY

(Surat Pernyataan Keaslian)

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Noora Zikria Zaeda
Nim : 190203176
Tempat/Tanggal Lahir : Krak Tampi/ 11 Maret 2002
Alamat : Gampong Blang, Lambaro Angan

Menyatakan dengan sesungguhnya bahwa skripsi yang berjudul:

PODCAST AND ITS CONTRIBUTION ON STUDENTS' LISTENING SKILL

Adalah benar-benar karya saya, kecuali semua kutipan dan referensi yang disebutkan sumbernya. Apabila terdapat kesalahan dan keliruan di dalamnya, maka akan sepenuhnya menjadi tanggung jawab saya. Demikianlah surat pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya.

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A R - R A N I R

Banda Aceh, 30 Desember 2024

Saya yang membuat pernyataan ini,



Noora Zikria Zaeda

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ABSTRACT

Name : Noora Zikria Zaeda
NIM : 190203176
Faculty : Fakultas Tarbiyah dan Keguruan
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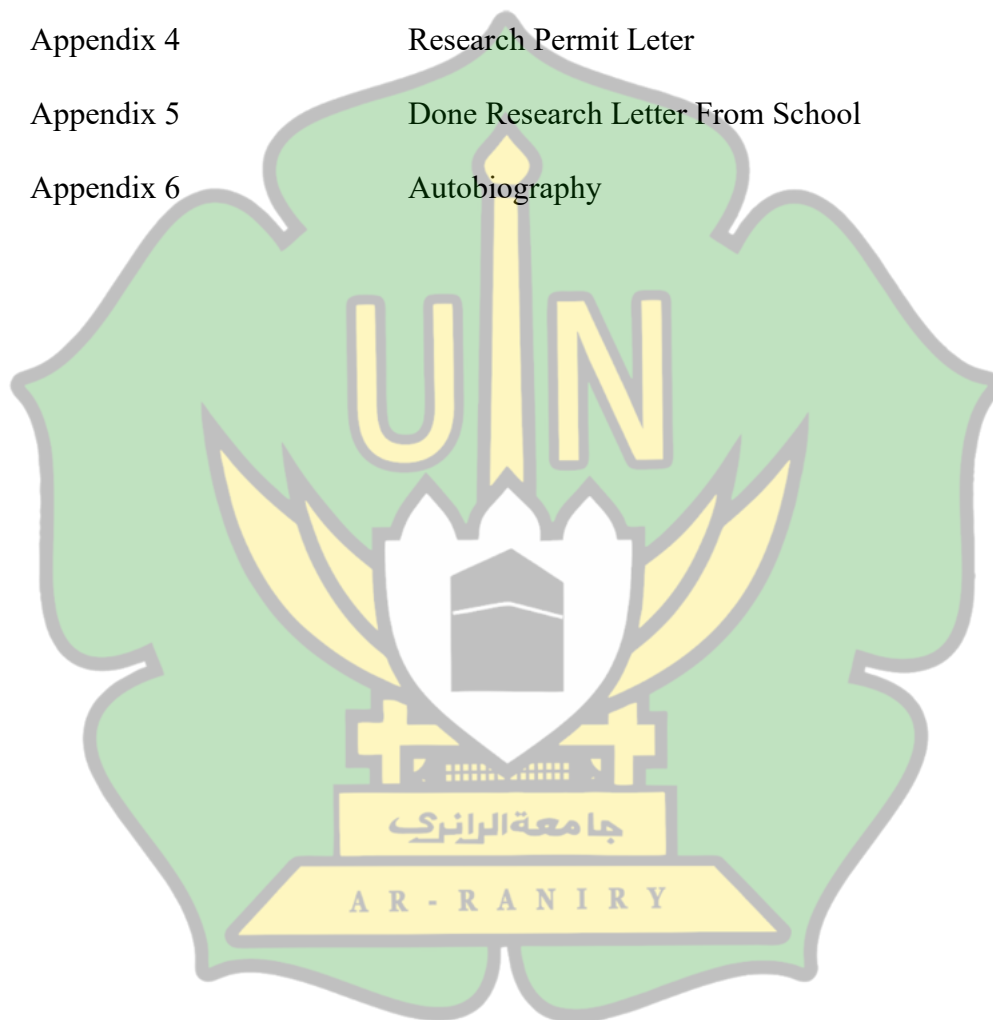
This research was conducted to explore student perceptions of the contribution of podcast towards students listening skill. Participants of this research was student in higher education institution from UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, to be specific students who majoring in the Department of English Language Education. This is a qualitative research. data were collected through interviews with the participants. The result of this study showed positive respond of the student towards the contribution of listening podcast, especially for listening skills. In student perspertive, podcasts are a valuable tool for improving students' listening skills, offering an engaging and adaptable learning environment. It provide diverse learning opportunities, allowing students to study in various circumstances and incorporate language study into their daily lives. Podcasts are flexible and accessible, making it ideal for those struggling in traditional classroom settings. However, internet connectivity issues can hinder consistent podcast usage. Some students prefer audio formats for flexibility, while others prefer video podcasts for visual cues. Overall, podcasts are a valuable instructional resource for improving listening skills.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Listening ability has a very crucial role in the context of communication, especially in a learning environment such as a classroom. In the research by Gilakjani (2011), it was found that the attention given to speaking and reading each ranged from 25-30 percent while listening skills required greater attention, namely between 40-50 percent. Meanwhile, writing requires around 11–16 percent attention. These results show the significance of listening skills in the English learning process in the classroom. In the context of English learning, where students learn through verbal interaction, listening comprehension becomes a key element in communication that supports their development. Listening skills not only stimulate language comprehension but also form the basis for overall communication skills (Alfian, 2019). Therefore, mastering listening skills is very important in learning English as a Foreign Language (EFL). This helps learners develop their communication skills and strengthens the foundation for a better overall understanding of the language.

As a result, educators must look for ways to make listening learning more engaging. One effective strategy is to use various multimedia formats to improve listening educational quality and English language instruction efficiency. Educators should be able to use educational media successfully, encouraging student excitement, decreasing boredom in the learning process, and developing a deeper knowledge of real-world applications in students.

Using multimedia software that combines audio, video, and graphics can enrich classroom content and provide relevant context throughout the learning journey (Suhardiana, 2019). Educators can improve their skills by understanding media dynamics, using smart selection acts, and innovatively using varied instructional methodologies.

Today, language instructors face issues as technology and information mediums evolve. The internet is one of the technical innovations that is gaining popularity today. People may instantly find any type of information from anywhere through the internet (Elmayantie, 2018).

Many audio-based media resources have been created as versatile learning tools. Podcasts are one such resource that instructors can use to improve students' listening abilities in the classroom (Fitria, Vianty, & Petrus, 2015). As an engaging medium, podcast allows people to actively interact, express themselves, discuss ideas, and market their products. Podcasts cater to a wide range of interests and can provide up-to-date material in a context suitable to the learner. Students can benefit from podcasts in terms of both knowledge gain and fun by incorporating them into the curriculum. Podcasts are regularly updated online content, usually consisting of MP3 files and spoken manuscripts. Notably, most podcasts are freely accessible. The variety of topics discussed and varying speaking speeds make podcasts accessible to listeners of all skill levels, thereby enhancing their overall learning experience (Amalia, 2021).

This research was carried out at UIN Ar- Raniry in the English Language Education department, where many students have improved their English listening skills by using various media, especially podcast media. The use of podcasts helps them in English listening practice. Therefore, students who use podcasts are expected to improve their English listening comprehension skills and stimulate their motivation to develop English listening skills. However, it is believed that many students will find it by contribution in improving their listening abilities. Also, many recent studies show that podcasts can be used as a medium in teaching and learning English language skills, especially in improving listening comprehension skills. As an example research conducted by Apriliani (2022) indicate that students have utilized podcasts to improve their listening comprehension. Most students also gave a positive view of the use of podcasts.

In the same context, research conducted by Amalia R. (2023) Indicates that podcasts provide significant assistance for students in the learning process, especially in bilingual schools. From the results of the interviews, it appears that the material taught in class is quite highly related to the podcasts that students listen to. This helps students capture the main idea of audio. The majority of students gave a positive view of the use of podcasts in a learning context, and Gonulal (2020) reported that intensive listening through the use of podcasts was effective in helping students improve their listening skills while improving pronunciation and phrasing abilities in the language.

Studies conducted by Apriliani (2022), Amalia (2023) and Gonulal (2020) have shown that the use of podcast has an effective impact on improving listening skills, especially the type of podcast that uses a foreign language especially English. Today, students in English Language Education Department also use the practice of listening to podcasts as a way to improve their listening comprehension. It is a good way to learn English other than formal learning because student feels more flexible and fun.

Therefore, students who use podcasts are expected to improve their English listening comprehension skills and increase their motivation to develop English listening skill while found the perfect type of podcast to help them in learning English. However, it is believed that many students will experience a positive impact in improving their listening abilities. Thus, it is important to explore the contribution of the use of podcast on students' listening skill. In this research, the student itself comes from Department of English Language Education of UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh who use podcast to learn and improve their listening skill.

B. Research question

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher formulates the following research question: "What are English students perceptions on the use of podcasts in improving their listening skill?".

C. The aims of the study

This study aims to explore English students' perceptions regarding the contribution of podcasts as a tool for enhancing their listening skills in language learning of PBI (English Language Education) based on their experience.

D. Significance of the study

This study is important for a variety of stakeholders, including universities of studies (campuses):

By demonstrating a dedication to creative and successful teaching approaches, this study can help the university's reputation and standing. Positive findings can attract potential English Education students and support the university's academic standing. This research can directly assist students. Understanding how podcasts can help students improve their listening abilities can improve their language learning experience, leading to more incredible academic achievement and increased motivation to engage with course material.

E. Terminology

a. Podcast

The podcast is an acronym term formed from two words, namely "Pod" and "Broadcasting." The time initially referred to the Apple iPod as the first podcast distribution platform. "Pod" in this context refers to an iPod, while "Broadcasting" implies broadcast or publishing. In short, podcasts are the

technology used to distribute, receive, and listen to content on demand produced by professionals and amateur radio. Podcasts allow users to access a variety of audio or audio-visual content at any time convenient for them (Silaban , Daniel, Amirollah, & Rafianti , 2020).

b. Listening skills

Listening is an important communication element, accounting for around half of overall conversation time. It is especially important in educational settings since it is a critical instrument for delivering relevant feedback to listeners and promoting comprehension in interpersonal communication. According to Indah sari(2020), good listening necessitates increased attention and concentration to assimilate the content offered, whether in conversations or monologues. Listening cannot be emphasized in schools where communication is essential to learning. It is a cornerstone for absorbing and engaging with information, significantly improving individuals' communicative skills.

There are several studies that discuss about the contribution of the podcast towards students' listening skill. Study conducted by (Siti, Lisa, Melati, & Doma, 2023) at SMAN 4 Bengkulu revealed significant differences between before and after treatment with podcasts. Podcasts have been shown to improve students' listening skills dramatically, making them an effective teaching tool. Podcasts can simplify listening instruction for teachers and improve student comfort and enjoyment of English.

Another study by Tarmawan, Rusdiyana, Salim, & Ulpah (2021) showed that with the increasing development of podcast media, many people use it as a learning medium. The conclusion obtained from this research is that with the existence of podcast media, learning can be done variedly and innovatively. Podcasts are also rated as an effective medium without the need to take so much effort to be able to get creative and innovative content in them. Creators can also share materials that they master easily, time-saving, and more affordable to audiences.

The research about implementation of podcasts in classrooms conducted by Astuti, Syam, & Daddi (2024) has significantly improved students' listening skills. Both students and teachers found it easy to use podcasts as a learning medium. The diagnostic test results showed a mean improvement of 45.25, with 50.83% improvement in cycle I and 16 in cycle II. The final results satisfied the criteria, indicating that podcasts have been a successful tool for improving students' listening skills.

A study by Prasetyo, Dianingsih, & Farhana (2023) aims to investigate how third-semester students in Universitas Bandar Lampung's English Department perceive the use of podcasts to improve their listening skills. The study used qualitative approaches and included 34 students from the university's English Department. Data gathering included surveys and interviews with five students. The acquired data was examined by integrating insights from both the surveys and interviews. The results show that using podcasts as an instructional medium improves students' listening abilities significantly. As a result, students' perspectives on podcast use for enhancing listening skills showed

improvements in efficacy and distinctiveness. Students praised the engaging and informative character of this learning medium.

