

THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF USING TWITTER IN LEARNING ENGLISH VOCABULARY MASTERY

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis persepsi siswa terhadap Twitter dalam mempelajari kosakata bahasa Inggris. Tujuan dalam penelitian ini adalah (1) untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa tentang penggunaan Twitter dalam pembelajaran kosakata bahasa Inggris, (2) untuk mengetahui implikasi dari Twitter dalam mempelajari kosakata bahasa Inggris. Penelitian ini dilakukan di Twitter pada mahasiswa jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris atau Sastra Inggris semester kedua hingga semester 8 di Indonesia. Data dikumpulkan dari kuisioner melalui Google Form dan dibagikan di Twitter. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan pada data kuantitatif partisipan memiliki persepsi yang positif terhadap Twitter dalam mempelajari kosakata bahasa Inggris. Misalnya, sebagian besar dari mereka setuju bahwa Twitter adalah alat yang berguna untuk mempelajari kosakata, sebagian besar peserta setuju bahwa mereka menemukan kata baru di Twitter. temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa siswa dapat menggunakan Twitter untuk mempelajari kosakata dan meningkatkan keterampilan bahasa mereka. 14 dari 15 pertanyaan mendapatkan respon atau perspsi positif, 1 pertanyaan mendapatkan respon netral.

ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to analysis of students' perception toward Twitter in learning English vocabulary. The objective of the research is (1) to investigate students' perception of using Twitter in learning English vocabulary, (2) to figure out the implications of Twitter in learning English vocabulary mastery. This research was conducted on Twitter in 2nd semester-8th semester of English students of university in Indonesia. The data was gathered from the questionnaire through google form and was shared on Twitter. the result of the study shows that the quantitative data revealed that participants had positif perceptions toward Twitter in learning English vocabulary. For instance, most of them agree that

Twitter is useful tool for learning vocabulary, majority of participants agree that they found new word on Twitter. These finding suggest that students can use Twitter for learning vocabulary and increase their language skills. 14 of 15 questions had positif respond or perceptions only one had neutral respond.

Keywords: Twitter, learning vocabulary, perceptions

INTRODUCTION

Twitter is a popular web-blog with millions of members who produces and shares information regularly. It was established in 2006 and has grown exponentially. Users can send tweets of up to 140 characters that can be posted on the Twitter website or applications for mobile phones and computer desktops. It has many features such as tweet, likes, retweet, retweet with comment, thread, moments, bookmark, etc (O’Rielly & Milstein, 2011). Moreover, this social media also allows users to attach clickable tags to tweets so that the site’s content is searchable and linked by topics. Thus, it is extremely useful when contributing and sharing information about a specific topics (Stevens, 2008).

Twitter users usually share their contents in English caption, such as motivation, quotes, love, humor, informations, daily activities, thoughts, conversations, etc. Several studies have shown that users mainly use microblogs to describe their daily routines, carry out conversations,

report news, and share information (e.g., Java, Song, Finin, & Tseng, 2007; Naaman, Boase, & Lai, 2010). It enables users to read the English text and find the meaning of new words. Thus, it facilitates to enrich their English vocabulary. The social networking such Twitter provides users more opportunities to increase the exposure and retention of new words or sentences in English. As stated by Borau et al. (2009) twitter tools lead users to actively produce language by giving them opportunities “to express themselves and interact in the target language. In educational environment, students use English only in class with teacher and other students through books and teaching material. On Twitter, students can interact with people from around the world using English, vocabulary is easy to find and memorize while students communicate with other user, auto-base also helps user to learn English easily because it postings new vocabulary or English things everyday.

By looking at Twitter users in our environment, this is the reason that makes researcher interested to finding out how Twitter can help English students in increasing vocabulary mastery. Based on the background above, the problem that must be answered is how students' perception on Twitter in learning English vocabulary mastery.

METHOD

Research Design and Setting

Survey research was adopted in order to arrive the research questions. Survey research design is procedures in quantitative research in which investigators administer a survey to a sample or to the entire population of people to describe the attitudes, opinions, behaviors, or characteristic of the population. The research was conducted on Twitter, July 2020.

Population and Sample

The researcher used random sampling for this study, the population were all users of Twitter and researcher took 100 users as sample with criteria such as English university students either from English Department or English Literature students. There was 12 male and 88 female students from various universities in Indonesia. Despite the

fact they use same applications, they might still have different perception with regards to their motivations and needs.

Instrument

In this research, the researcher used questionnaire consisted of affective, cognitive, and behavior statements. The questionnaire has 15 statements and used likert scale from Google Form.

Data Analysis

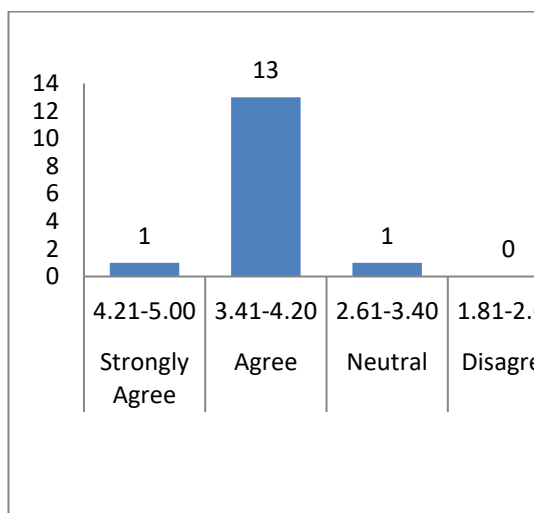
The researcher analyzed the data using SPSS application to find mean score, interpretation of mean values, and percentage.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. How do students perceive toward Twitter in learning English vocabulary mastery ?

The researcher did the research and got the complete data from the research instruments. The instruments was questionnaire and have 15 questions.

Table 1.



The diagram shows that from 15 statements, 13 statements got agree, 1 strongly agree and 1 neutral which means majority of students had positive perceptions on Twitter in learning English vocabulary.

The first statement gained 65% students strongly agree that they update all informations through Twitter. In the next statement 34% students strongly agree and 43% agree about Twitter is one of the learning tools on the internet that very easy and useful for learning vocabulary.

In the third statement, mostly students strongly agree (41%) and agree (44%) that they always find new word when the use Twitter. In Twitter students can find new word, in single word, sentences or idiom, and 32% students practice this word in sentences.

Students also interact with other Twitter user with new vocabulary and try to use

in speaking and writing. Most of them found new word and understand the meaning without open dictionary because native speaker explained the meaning clearly.

The last statement, 37% students strongly agree and believed that English vocabulary on Twitter very useful and they need to learn it through Twitter.

2. What are implications of using Twitter for students who learn English vocabulary mastery?

Using Twitter in learning English vocabulary is effective way to increase vocabulary. Based on table 2, students mostly agree with 'I like using Twitter because there are new word in single, combinations or idiom'. The participants mostly agree about using English vocabulary on Twitter in writing and speaking, they about to agree that it helps them to communicate with others. Twitter in learning vocabulary can be a useful tool, not only increase their vocabulary, but their skill ability especialy writing and speaking skill as well. Twitter also makes them update information easily followed by 65% strongly agree with the statement.

CLOSING

Conclusion

This study aims at investigate university students' perceptions about using

Twitter in learning English vocabulary. The study follows survey research design with questionnaire instrument. This study had 100 participants from English department and English literature students from various university in Indonesia. The first research question in this study is ‘how do students perceive toward Twitter in learning English vocabulary mastery?’ on the diagram, 14 of 15 questions had positif respond, the result was agree which means majority of students had positif perceptions on Twitter in learning English vocabulary. The second research question is ‘What are implications of using Twitter for students who learn English vocabulary mastery?’ the result was Twitter is a useful tool for learning English vocabulary. Students can improved their writing and speaking skilld, it was proved by 39% students agree with the statement related bout speaking and writing skills. 49% students also strongly agree that their confident increase when they communicate with others.

Suggestion

1. For students
 - a. Students should use Twitter for learning things and more effectively

- b. Students should more interact with native or English speaker to improve their writing skill ability and interact with new word
2. For the other researcher

The next researcher can conduct a study about Twitter user and why students more interest in Twitter than other platform for learning English vocabulary

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