

THE DESCRIPTION OF CAKE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE TO THE STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS AT SMA SWASTA ST, XAVERIUS GUNUNGSITOLI

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the assistance of the cake application in learning a speaking skill and the students' reason for utilizing the cake application in learning the students' speaking skills. The research was conducted in class X at SMA Swasta Santu Xaverius Gunungsitoli with 20 students. The research method used is a qualitative descriptive approach. Data were collected through observations and interviews. The results show that students use the cake application and can utilize the cake application in speaking skills. Students use it by studying the video menu, conversation dialogue, and path menu. The most frequently utilized by students is the conversation dialogue menu because this menu is very complete. Students can learn to speak, and dialogue with native speakers, students can see errors the pronunciation in dialogue sentences, and students are also helped by explanations at the end of the dialogue and are equipped with Indonesian translations. However, students also need to actively practice and interact with fellow students and native English speakers

Keywords: *Cake Application, Assistance, Speaking Skill*

INTRODUCTION

English is the most extremely spoken language on earth. English is a crucial language that plays an essential role in the world. Every human being should be able to communicate with others using four language skills, namely reading, writing, listening, and speaking. According to Rao 2019 stated speaking and writing are a person's ability to produce or create language. This means that people actively use language to convey ideas, thoughts, or feelings. whereas Listening and reading is the ability to receive and understand language. This means that people can perceive messages conveyed by other people through language. However, one of the most vital talents to develop is speaking. (Mashula & Ratna, 2023) Speaking is the most important skill for using English effectively. Speaking can be interpreted as an important ability in the language aspect because it is one of the skills that supports a person in mastering a language well through the use

of that language. Speaking is the skill of conveying messages through spoken language or speaking is the ability to pronounce articulate sounds or words to express, state, and convey thoughts, ideas, and feelings to the person you are talking to achieve communicative goals.

According to Swary (2014) in Annisa 2023 states that speaking is an essential skill to learn because it will assist people to express what someone said. Speaking plays an essential thing in the process of communication, enabling individuals to interact with other people, express ideas, and convey thoughts, feelings, or information accurately. Therefore, students must improve their speaking skills to communicate more effectively in various situations and contexts. We can share our ideas with others by verbal communication. Through speaking, people can express their thoughts in everyday life. This makes students more fluent in communicating. Because when they speak, they know what they think and how they feel about

it.

Harmer (2007:284) in Astarini Improving Speaking Skill Using Group Discussion 2019 claims that speaking is the ability to engage fluently and presupposes not only mastery of linguistic features but also the ability to comprehend information and language 'on the spot'. It means that speaks not only about having knowledge of grammar and language structure in general but also about the ability to interact fluently and effectively in certain situations. Furthermore, the speaking ability also involves the ability to process information and language quickly and precisely at that moment, without needing a long time to think about answers or responses. Thus, speaking involves the ability to understand and respond to the interlocutor fluently and efficiently.

Therefore, Speaking is characterized as a reciprocal communication process that engages both the speaker and the listener to sharing, and delivering information, messages, and ideas that are aimed at achieving communicative goals. Speaking skills is essential for students, as it promotes interaction that aids in the acquisition of the English language through a collaborative approach to communication. Without speaking, communication will not occur or will not take place well. In other words, speaking is the main foundation of effective communication, because through speaking, people can convey thoughts, ideas, feelings, and information to others clearly and efficiently. So, Speaking is essential in establishing interpersonal relationships, working together in teams, speeches, meetings, presentations or interacting in various daily situations.

Nuryana (2020), indicates that students face several difficulties in their English speaking abilities, which include shyness, grammatical issues, limited vocabulary, pronunciation challenges, a deficiency in self-confidence,

apprehension about making mistakes, and anxiety. In Reality, Most students need help learning English. Students' Vocabulary and Sentence Structure are limited: Students have difficulty in finding the right words or constructing sentences correctly while speaking. This can be a barrier to conveying ideas or understanding conversations well, Lack of direct Practice: Often, students have sufficient knowledge of English but lack hands-on practice in speaking with native speakers or even classmates. This can be caused by a learning environment that is not supportive or lack of confidence in speaking, Anxiety, or Fear of Speaking namely Some students may feel nervous or afraid to speak English because they are afraid of making mistakes or feel embarrassed if they make mistakes in speaking. This kind of anxiety can hinder their ability to practice and improve their speaking skills, Lack of Motivation or interest in learning English can also be a problem. Without enough motivation, students may tend to give up or not try hard to improve their speaking skills, Students have a negative paradigm towards English. English as a foreign language is difficult to learn, as the writing is different from the spelling. Students consider English, not a language that must be studied.

The cake application is here as an innovative solution to help users learn to speak in a fun and effective way. Learning is the process of acquiring knowledge, skills, values, or understanding through experience, or teaching. This process can take place in various contexts, such as at school, at work, in everyday life, or through personal experiences. Therefore, the Cake application helps users in speaking skills. Equipped with diverse interesting menus or features, such as conversation practice, learning pronunciation, and repetition after watching videos. Aplicake Cake helps students speak English fluently and confidently. Cake application provides

speaking practice namely videos and conversations with various features, such as voice recognition and conversation practice. This allows students to practice and learn to speak directly and get immediate feedback.

At this time, learning English, especially speaking, is very accessible everywhere, especially with the help of technology that can help students learn speaking. Technology is a significant language tool in this regard because it can boost students' encouragement. (Hernandez, 2017; Wiyaka, Mujiyanto, and Rukmini, 2018). According to Meidasari in Zul Amri 2023, digital media has been popular among the youthful generation since pupils are more conversant with technology these days. Digital technology is built on digital devices like smartphones and computers. The advancement of digital technology provides benefits that support progress in other fields. Therefore, the researcher would prefer to employ the cake application.

The Cake application is the most popular English application. Cake application uses videos to give us examples of words that will be very useful in everyday life. According to Saud Albahlal, 2019, in Chotimah 2022, the Cake application gives a large number of video references from YouTube. Videos are offered in numerous genres and can be picked based on your interests, such as vlogs, films, and podcasts. Such as repetition of the learned sentence, emphasis, clear transcription, and excellent audio. Cake application is also created with speech recognition, therefore students can talk or imitate the speaker and have the results assessed using speech recognition. With this application, students can learn English using short videos, short English dialogues and monologues, and daily updated discussions so users can learn English fast and it is completely free.

According to Sinha 2019 in

Nurinsani 2021 states that the Cake application offers a recording feature that users can enjoy listening to. Additionally, this app can vigorously implicate students. In the speaking process, students could discover and practice new vocabulary. In other words, the recording feature provided by the Cake application provides a pleasant experience for students and allows students are actively implicate in learning activities. Therefore, this application is the best solution to improve English speaking skills.

METHOD

This research has been undertaken by researchers employing qualitative research methodologies. Researchers will use qualitative descriptive research methodology. Qualitative research is characterized as a method that utilizes descriptive data, which may be presented in written or spoken form, derived from observable individuals and participants. This qualitative framework is implemented to elucidate and examine phenomena, events, social dynamics, attitudes, beliefs, and perceptions at both individual and group levels. Islamuddin et al., (2023) state that qualitative research is characterized by inductive reasoning, which relies on objective observations made through active participation in social phenomena. Furthermore, Qualitative research methodology, which are based on philosophical tenets, are applied to examine scientific scenarios, particularly experiments, in which the researcher functions as the main instrument. These methods underscore the importance of data collection techniques and qualitative analysis that concentrate on the interpretation of meaning. (Saputra & Riady 2024).

Therefore, the writer can deduce that qualitative research delivers significant insights into different phenomena, emphasizes the use of researchers as the main tool, as well as data collection and analysis techniques that are oriented towards understanding

meaning. This research aims to describe the assistances and the reason of cake application in English especially speaking for 10th grade students. Thus, it can be concluded that in the context of qualitative research, the researcher functions as the central instrument for deriving meaning and interpreting diverse phenomena, symptoms, and particular social situations. As a result, it is imperative for researchers to possess a thorough understanding of theory to examine the inconsistencies that may exist between theoretical constructs and actual occurrences.

As noted by Purwanto (2018), the primary function of research instruments is to act as tools for the collection of data during research activities. Furthermore, Sugiyono (2019: 156) also states that a research instrument is a device used to assess observed natural and social phenomena. This tool is essential in research, as it assists in the collection and retrieval of data, making the research process more efficient. Based on the explanation above, research instruments that used by the researcher in this study are guidelines interview and observation list.

Interviews are employed to gather information from subjects regarding their views, beliefs, and feelings about various situations, conveyed in their own words. There are three main types of interview formats: structured interviews, unstructured interviews, and semi-structured interviews. The researcher utilized structured interviews in this study, which facilitated the formulation of questions ahead of the interview. The questions were organized clearly and sequentially. In conducting the interview, the researcher must pay attention to the attitude, appearance, and body language of the interviewee when answering the researcher's questions.

Observation fundamentally involves the engagement of the five senses sight, smell, hearing, and touch, to gather

the necessary information for addressing a research question. The outcomes of such observations manifest as activities, events, objects, specific conditions or environments, as well as individual emotional responses. Cresweel (Sugiyono, 2016:214) asserts that the act of observation serves as a means of collecting original data by monitoring individuals or the work process of a product at the place where the research is conducted. Observation of people's behavior or work processes of a product resulting from research and development. In making observations, researchers see, listen, then take measurements with the instruments they carry. Observations made directly with students as they engaged in the teaching and learning process in the classroom at the tenth grade of SMA Swasta Santu Xaverius Gunungsitoli.

FINDINGS

it is clear that students in class X budi pekerti using the cake application. The number of students was 36 students, and 20 students used the cake application. Based on the results of observations, students use conversation dialogue, video, and path features to utilize the cake application and it is very beneficial in speaking skills. However, there is one indicator that students do not use, namely the quiz feature, where this feature trains students to choose the right words in a sentence. If the student chooses the wrong word and presses the "Ok" button, the cake application notifies that the student's choice is wrong and will provide the correct sentence or the word that matches the sentence. Apart from that, the path menu is rarely used by students every day. Based on the information presented in the table above, The researcher deduces from the data illustrated in the table above that students in class X Budi Pekerti have used the cake application and can utilize it.

Table 4. The Indicator of cake application usage

Meeting

No	Indicator	1	2	3
1	Students have used the cake application	✓	✓	✓
2	Students are able to use the cake application easily	✓	✓	✓
3	Students use the speaking feature well	✓	✓	✓
4	Students practice Conversation dialogues in the dialogue menu	✓	✓	✓
5	Students watch videos to improve their speaking skills.	✓	✓	✓
6	Students use the path feature	×	✓	✓
7	Students note down new vocabulary.	✓	✓	✓
8	Students use correct intonation	×	✓	✓
9	Students use the quiz feature	×	×	×
10	Students show great interest when using the cake application.	✓	✓	✓

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On the observation sheet, there are 10 indicators for students in the cake application description by applying a yes and no checklist. 20 students use the cake application and they find it easy to utilize the application. indicators on the observation sheet include the utilization made by students in using the cake application. Here's the description:

Utilizes short videos on the cake application such as films, TV shows, and vlogs that use everyday English. gives students a natural way to learn the language. By watching the short video, students will become familiar with English

intonation, and understand how words are used in real context. and students also say to utilize short videos, not only the sentences in bold but all the sentences in short video. Students could understand and master new words/phrases.

Conversation menu/feature where the menu helped students learn speaking skills and understand how to read by native speakers. students can listen to the dialogue, repeat it, and then compare their pronunciation with native speakers. Students also answered namely utilizing the conversation menu in this application provides variations or different topics every day, which helps students improve their speaking skills. This menu allows students to study both inside and outside school. The available speaking practice feature allows students to dialogue with native speakers based on existing conversations, as well as providing the opportunity to repeat these conversations to deepen students' understanding and speaking skills.

Utilizing the path menu equipped with materials and videos, students can learn and improve their speaking skills more effectively. The path menu in the Cake application provides material that is structured and easy to follow, making the learning process easier. Thanks to this organized approach, students can study systematically without getting bored, so that the learning experience becomes more enjoyable.

Based on the findings from interviews carried out by researchers with students, the researchers concluded that students were greatly helped by the

features in the cake application and the cake application provided sufficient practice for students in speaking skill. The most helpful feature that students often use is the dialogue, conversation or pronunciation feature. The interview results show that the assistance in cake application in students' speaking skills is assist and effective, such as in the conversation dialogue menu, speaking practice and pronunciation. There is one feature or menu that is very complete, namely the conversation dialogue menu used by students in class X Budi Pekerti.

CONCLUSION

The Cake application is an application and technology-based English learning media designed to help users, especially students, improve students' English language skills, one of which is speaking skills. The Cake application makes a significant contribution to students' English speaking skills. Through features such as short videos, conversation practice/conversational dialogue, and quizzes. This application facilitates interactive and fun learning. Regular use of the application helps students understand and apply intonation, and vocabulary in real situations, and can improve speaking skills. With structured materials and immediate feedback, the Cake app ensures students to improve their confidence and speaking skills effectively, both in academic and everyday life.

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