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The Perceptions of Using Duolingo Application in Learning English for Student's Vocabulary Mastery

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Article History



Abstract

The objective of this study was to investigate the attitudes around the use of the Duolingo program as a tool for enhancing students' vocabulary proficiency in the English language. The present study used a quantitative research methodology. The researcher administered a questionnaire to a group of students on their use of the Duolingo program. The participants in this research consisted of students enrolled in the English department at IAIN Kediri. The study sample consisted of 30 students that were enrolled in the English department. The findings indicate that 70% of respondents selected the option "Agree" for item number 1. This suggests that the usage of the Duolingo program for English language learning positively impacts students' vocabulary proficiency. Furthermore, the overall results of the 10-item questionnaire indicate a general agreement among participants. The Duolingo program may be seen as a valuable tool for acquiring vocabulary. The Duolingo program is a valuable tool for acquiring proficiency in the English language, since it not only facilitates learning but also enhances student engagement by providing an enjoyable and non-monotonous learning experience. The empirical evidence suggests that Duolingo is a proficient instrument for acquiring language skills. The use of the Duolingo program has shown to be a successful method for enhancing pupils' proficiency in vocabulary.

Keywords

Duolingo
Perceptions
Vocabulary

Introduction

Indonesian students learn English as a foreign language, according to the new curriculum, it will be taught first in middle school. Like many other languages, English has four main skills, these are listening, speaking, reading and writing. There are also linguistic factors such as pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary that connect these four main skills. Factors that support students in this master language skill is vocabulary. Students may not understand this conversation while listening, when she speaks can't communicate properly without vocabulary (Purwanto, 2023) Students cannot view or understand the text. in writing, student may not be able to write your thoughts. The problem is the lack of vocabulary. Vocabulary learning is an

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important part of learning a foreign language because the meanings of new words are very common (Yusda et al., 2020) Vocabulary should be taught to students because vocabulary is the most important element of English that students need to understand and it plays an important role in all languages in the world without which it is impossible to understand each other (Permatasari et al., 2022) In other hand (Tanjung, 2016) state that Vocabulary is the knowledge of words and their meanings. According to this statement, a vocabulary is any word in a language that someone knows and uses to communicate with each other. Recognize the importance of vocabulary through words, (Zamzami, 2019) said that without mastering grammar, only a few languages can be learned. But without vocabulary there is nothing that can be conveyed.

The current people lived era of globalization technology development in most aspects the rapid growth of life. Learn with technology has become indispensable in modern times school. As a result of technological developments, there are now many different types of English learning media on the market (Of & Sciences, 2023). Finally, they try to find a lot of information by using the internet. They explore a lot of information and news via the internet. Technological development is closely related to development English. Technology can change the way humans work, learn, interact, and spend their time. In this era, there are lots of media or applications that can support students in learning activities. This application can simplify and accelerate students in capturing and understanding learning material. One application that is often used for learning vocabulary is Duolingo. Duolingo is a game-based language learning program focused on expanding students' vocabulary. Vocabulary topics are provided in various modules. Basic knowledge, food, animals, common idioms, and plurals (Ali, 2021).

Previous research related to student's perception of using Duolingo application for learn vocabulary has been widely carried out. The (Jaelani & Sutari, 2020) was carried out students' perception of using Duolingo application as a media in learning vocabulary. The result of the research show that Duolingo is the effective media for learning vocabulary. The (Fadilah, 2022) on the research about student's perception on the use of Duolingo application in learning English, the result show that many students prefer Duolingo to learn English and Duolingo application had great features and easy to use. The (Malang et al., 2022) show that students have a good response to the use of Duolingo application as a tool for language learning. Duolingo have many benefits for language learning and suitable for support learning process to be better. Based on the previous research above, the researcher found the similarities of this research is the media for learning English that is Duolingo application. In other hand, the differences of this research with others is the researcher focus on the using Duolingo application for vocabulary mastery. So, this research is aim to know of the perception of using Duolingo application in learning English for student's vocabulary mastery.

Research Methods

This study was classified as a quantitative approach and research study. Amount or range is the basis of quantitative research. Associated with this is something countable or quantitative. An example of this type of research is the systematic experimental analysis of visible phenomena using numerical techniques such as statistics and percentages. Mishra & Alok (2011). This is the process of selecting topics, research locations, and data collection methods for reporting on your research question. A research study design is a quantitative research technique in which researchers conduct surveys of entire populations to elucidate attitudes, opinions, behaviours, or characteristics of the population. To test research questions and hypotheses, research

researchers use questionnaires (such as mail-in surveys) or individual interviews (such as one-on-one interviews) to collect quantified, quantitative data.

In this study, it is important to define research tools. Moreover, according to Colton & Covert (2007) to facilitate researchers' research means are selected to help collect data. The instrument for this study is a research questionnaire. According to Birmingham & Wilkinson (2003), questionnaires are often preferred by many researchers because they are a cheap, efficient, and easy method of data collection. According to Brown, a survey is a written instrument that asks a respondent a series of questions or statements and must respond by either writing down their answers or selecting them from the answers provided. The respondent can choose one of the answers provided. Moreover, according to (Connor Desai & Reimers, 2019), he has two types of questions: open-ended and closed-ended. Connor Desai & Reimers (2019) stated that closed-ended questions were used in the study because they allow for more consistent responses and are easier to answer, code and analyze.

The questionnaire is based on a Likert scale. Similar to Likert scaling, the bipolar scaling technique determines whether a statement is perceived positively or negatively. Psychometric scales, known as Likert scales, are commonly used in questionnaire-based research. Scientists used Likert scales for varying qualities of information and stretched scales to encode queries. Each answer was assigned a number. Examples: "strongly agree" = SA, "agree" = A, "neutral" = N, "disagree" = D, "strongly disagree" = SD. To collect research data, researchers created her five-item Likert scale questionnaire. Al Khasri, 2019, p. 20, reported that the inquiry had been received. The purpose of the 10 survey questions was to find out what EFL students think about using Duolingo application in learning English for student's vocabulary mastery. There are 30 respondents of this research. This questionnaire was adapted from (Nasrul & Fatimah, 2023).

Results and Discussion

This study used a questionnaire to obtain information on how people feel about using Duolingo to improve their English vocabulary as part of a larger study of the app's influence on language learning. In this part, we thoroughly explain the results of our in-depth data study. We carefully analyzed the survey responses to answer our research question about how respondents felt about their classmates' and teachers' use of the Duolingo app to improve their English vocabulary. Scholars analyzed carefully the results of a closed-ended survey in which students were asked to rank a set of items on a 5-point scale and indicate their choice by checking out the appropriate column. I agree completely, I agree, I don't take sides, I disagree strongly. The percentages and response rates of those who took part in the subsequent talks are shown below.

Table 1. Student Agreement on Duolingo's Impact on Reading Comprehension

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	4	13.3%
Agree	21	70.0%
Neutral	3	10.0%
Disagree	1	3.3%
Strongly Disagree	1	3.3%

First and foremost, Duolingo is a fantastic resource for bettering one's reading comprehension. Four students, or 13.3 percent of the total respondents, showed a clear preference for the Strongly Agree choice in the context of this study. Twenty-one students, or 70 percent, chose

the Agree response. Only three students (or 10% of the total) selected the indifferent response. One student out of a total of a few hundred had the nerve to disagree, making up just 3.3% of the group, by clicking the "Disagree" button. Only one student (3.3% of the total) chose the Strongly Disagree option. The results of the study of students' replies to item 1 computed to 67.3%, demonstrating majority agreement within the classified response.

Table 2. Duolingo as a Helpful Resource for Teaching Vocabulary

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	0	0.0%
Agree	11	36.7%
Neutral	14	46.7%
Disagree	5	16.7%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

My preference for using Duolingo as a helpful resource for teaching vocabulary is the second thing on my list. In the context of this investigation, it is worth noting that no students indicated a preference for the "Strongly Agree" choice (0). Approximately 36.7% of the student body showed a preference for the agreement option, with 11 students standing out as a particularly strong showing. Fourteen students (or 46.7% of the total) in the sample selected the neutral response. Five students, or 16.7 percent of the whole student body, were in the minority and chose to voice their disagreement. No student selected "Strongly Disagree" (0) as their response. A total of 26.7% of the student body selected "Neutral" in answer to question 2 during the survey.

Table 3. Duolingo Makes Learning Fun and Interesting

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	3.3%
Agree	19	63.3%
Neutral	9	30.0%
Disagree	1	3.3%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

Third, we'll talk about how interesting and fun it is to learn a new language using Duolingo. One student out of a total sample size of 3,3 has indicated their preference for the "Strongly Agree" response choice in the context of this survey. Nineteen students (or 63.3% of the total) chose the Agree response. Thirty percent of the student body, or nine people, chose the neutral option. One student out of a whole group showed a tendency to disagree, which is just 3.3% of the whole. No student selected "Strongly Disagree" (0) as their response. 33.3 percent of students selected "Neutral" as their answer to question 3 according to the data analysis.

Table 4. Duolingo as a Preferred Method for Learning New Words and Phrases

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	6.7%
Agree	20	66.7%
Neutral	8	26.7%
Disagree	0	0.0%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

Using the Duolingo app has been one of my favorite ways to learn new words and phrases. Two students' choices who stated emphatic agreement with the supplied proposition stand out as particularly interesting within the framework of this investigation. Only 6.7% of all students selected the "Strongly Agree" option. There were a total of 20 students in the sample, or 66.7%, who selected the Agree option. Eight students, or around 26.7 percent of the group, choose the neutral response. The number of students who selected "Disagree" was a firm zero. No student checked the box marked "Strongly Disagree" (0). When calculated, the percentage of students who selected "Neutral" in answer to question 4 was 46.7%.

Table 5. Using Duolingo in the Classroom Keeps Students Engaged

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	6.7%
Agree	14	46.7%
Neutral	10	33.3%
Disagree	4	13.3%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

Fifthly, I don't get bored thinking about how teachers can use Duolingo in the classroom. Two students' choices who stated emphatic agreement with the supplied proposition stand out as particularly interesting within the framework of this investigation. This small percentage of the student body (6.7% to be exact) selected the "Strongly Agree" option. Fourteen students, or 46.7% of the total, picked the yes answer. About one-third (33.3%) of the students in the sample went with the "neutral" answer. Only 13% of the pupils in the survey, or four thoughtful individuals, voiced their dissent. No student selected "Strongly Disagree" (0) as their response. A total of 33.4% of students indicated agreement with item 5 after analysis.

Table 6. Duolingo Helps Expand Vocabulary

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	4	13.3%
Agree	19	63.3%
Neutral	6	20.0%
Disagree	1	3.3%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

Sixth on the list is the possibility that one's vocabulary might expand via using Duolingo. In the context of this study, a quartet of students (representing 13.3% of the sample) showed a consistent leaning toward the Strongly Agree choice. An amazing 63.3% of pupils, or 19 out of 30, chose the agreement option. Six students, or 20% of the total, picked the agnostic answer. Only one kid out of the whole group dared to openly disagree with the majority view. This represents only 3.3% of the class. There was not a single student who selected "Strongly Disagree" (0). Approximately 53.3 percent of the answers to question 6 fell into the same categories, demonstrating substantial student consensus.

Table 7. Duolingo Makes Vocabulary Learning Natural and Comfortable

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	6.7%
Agree	21	70.0%
Neutral	4	13.3%
Disagree	3	10.0%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

The seventh point has inspired me to make a more deliberate effort to seem comfortable and natural while using Duolingo, the language-learning website I've found to be an invaluable resource for expanding my vocabulary. Within the context of this survey, two students (or 6.7% of the entire student body) showed a strong preference for the "Strongly Agree" option. Seventy percent of the sample, or 21 students, picked the Agree response. About one-fifth of the pupils (four) in the sample went with the agnostic answer. Only three pupils, or 10% of the total, spoke up to voice their disagreement. There was a complete lack of Strongly Disagree (0) selections from the students. A total of 53.4% of students selected "Agree" when asked if they agreed or disagreed with statement 7 of the survey.

Table 8. Duolingo is an Efficient Strategy for Learning New Words

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	1	3.3%
Agree	18	60.0%
Neutral	7	23.3%
Disagree	3	10.0%
Strongly Disagree	1	3.3%

I have found that using Duolingo to learn and memorize new words in English is an efficient and effective strategy. Only one student out of a total of three hundred and thirty-three (3.3% of the sample) showed a preference for the "Strongly Agree" response choice. Sixteen out of twenty-four students (60%) chose the Agree response. Seven students, or 23.3% of the total, picked the agnostic answer. There were just 3 pupils (or 10%) that chose the "Disagree" option. Only one student (3.3% of total responders) chose the "Strongly Disagree" response. A total of 26.7% of students selected "Neutral" in answer to question 8 based on the analysis of their survey replies.

Table 9. Wattpad as a Resource for Improving Vocabulary

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	3	10.0%
Agree	17	56.7%
Neutral	8	26.7%
Disagree	2	6.7%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

If you're looking to improve your vocabulary, Wattpad is a great place to start. Only 3 out of the total number of students that participated in this survey (10%) chose to identify with the "Strongly Agree" position. Of the overall sample, 17 students (56.7%) selected the Agree response. Eight students, or around 26.7 percent of the group, choose the neutral response. Only 6.7% of the student body showed a preference for the dissenting opinion by selecting the "Disagree" option. This small but vocal minority, consisting of only two people, clearly favors alternative viewpoints. No student selected "Strongly Disagree" (0) as their response. The percentage of students who answered "Agree" to question 9 was 33.3%, showing that there was a sizable bloc of respondents who felt this way.

Table 10. Understanding Subtle Meanings with Duolingo

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	2	6.7%
Agree	21	70.0%
Neutral	6	20.0%

Disagree	1	3.3%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%

When learning a new language using Duolingo, it's easier to pick up on the subtle meanings of words at first glance. Two students (6.7 percent of the total) chose the "Strongly Agree" option during this survey's data collection phase. Twenty-one students (or 70% of the total) selected the Agree response. Six out of twenty pupils in the group went with the non-descript option. Only one kid out of the whole group dared to openly disagree with the majority view. This represents only 3.3% of the class. No student selected "Strongly Disagree" (0) as their response. A total of 53.4% of students selected "Agree" when asked if they agreed or disagreed with statement #10, according to the results of the study.

Factoring in the aforementioned survey results, it seems that... There seems to be a general agreement that Duolingo may help pupils improve their command of the English language's vocabulary. Seventy percent of respondents agreed with the first statement, indicating a general consensus in favor of that opinion. On the other hand, it's interesting that not a single student chose the Strongly Disagree option for any of the issues, suggesting widespread disagreement with this stance. According to the results, the reaction of using the Duolingo program to improve pupils' English vocabulary competency has been overwhelmingly positive. The results of the survey indicate that EFL students are open to using the Duolingo app to improve their English vocabulary. The thorough examination of the questionnaire, which included 10 questions, produced classifiable outcomes. I share your opinion. As a result, Duolingo's reputation as a tool for boosting pupils' English vocabulary has grown in recent years. Students of English as a foreign language (EFL) have also responded well to the use of the Duolingo app as part of their language learning process. The Duolingo app is an excellent resource for expanding one's lexical knowledge.

The results of this study suggest that Duolingo application, as a tool for teaching vocabulary mastery, can make students feel confident and comfortable to improve their vocabulary mastery. The researchers also found that students are interested in learning and improving their reading skills. The students can improve their vocabulary with Duolingo because Duolingo gives them a positive impact for improving their vocabulary mastery. Based on (Jaelani & Sutari, 2020) under the title Students' Perception of Using Duolingo Application as a Media in Learning Vocabulary, researchers found there are some differences and similarities. The similarities include the analysis of the data used, namely using the description method to analyse the data obtained. In addition, the number of respondents has something in common, namely 30 respondents. The research results that emerged also had something in common, namely the use of Duolingo had a positive impact on students' vocabulary mastery. Some differences also emerged between this study and previous studies. These differences can be seen in the research design used. In previous studies using qualitative case studies while this research uses quantitative. Differences also appear at the level of respondents. The level of respondents in the previous study was junior high school students, while the level of respondents in this study were university students. Another difference lies in the number of existing questionnaires. In previous studies there were only 5 questionnaire, while in this study there were 10 questionnaire.

Based on the previous study by (Fadilah, 2022) under the title Students' Perception on The Use of Duolingo Application in Learning English During Covid-19, The results concluded that most students agreed to use the Duolingo application in their English learning during Covid-19 and responded positively rather than negatively. The Duolingo application has benefited and contributed to English learning for both students and teachers. In this study, the authors found

differences and similarities. The equation that emerges is the research design between the previous research and this research, namely the results which show a positive response of students to the use of Duolingo in learning vocabulary. Meanwhile, the differences between this study and previous research include: Previous research used a qualitative case study research method with data collection techniques using interviews and questionnaires. While in this study using a quantitative method with a questionnaire for data collection. The number of respondents in the previous study was 35 students from senior high school. Meanwhile, in this study, the number of respondents was 30 from student's university. Another difference is in the number of questionnaires. the number of questionnaires in the previous study was 15 and in this study there were 10 questionnaires. The last difference lies in the final percentage of the research results. in previous research the result showed that 66.30% of the students agreed with the option of "strongly agree". A positive statement about the Duolingo application. students love it. The Duolingo application is great and fun to work with and always wanted to learn English with the Duolingo application. whereas in this study the results showed that 70% of respondents agreed that Duolingo application had a positive impact on student's vocabulary mastery.

According to (Malang et al., 2022) under the title The Students' Perception Of Using Duolingo as a Language Tool For Learning English, the researcher found some similarities and differences. The similarities between the previous study and this study appear in the results obtained. The results obtained show positive results. In previous research, the results of questionnaires and interviews obtained by researchers explain that students agree that the Duolingo app has many positive effects on students in language learning as students become more motivated in learning and make students practice and apply language skills more them in everyday life. Meanwhile, in this study, 70% of respondents agreed that Duolingo had a positive impact on student's vocabulary mastery. The objects studied in previous research and this research have similarities in that both use students at the university level. In addition, the data research method also has similarities, namely by using surveys on students. Researchers also found similarities in data analysis methods. To analysed the data, the previous study and this study describe the data. Researchers also found differences from the previous study with this study. The number of respondents taken in the previous study was 20 respondents, while in this study there were 30 respondents. The previous research design used a qualitative method, while this study used a quantitative method.

Conclusion

This research was carried out which aims to investigate the perceptions of using Duolingo application in learning English for student's vocabulary mastery. The conclusions about this research can be written as follows, based on the results of previous research and discussion. According to the percentage of the finding, the researcher conclude that from 30 respondents, the use of Wattpad application for reading skill in EFL classroom is categorized Agree. In the item number 1 there are (70%) chose the option Agree, while there is (0%) students choose the option Strongly Disagree in all the items. Duolingo is a useful tool for learning vocabulary, some students respond positively because they can access the Duolingo application anywhere and anytime. Based on the results of the study, according to the majority of students, learning vocabulary using Duolingo application was very enjoyable and it became easier for them to understand the material presented..

Learning vocabulary using Duolingo also facilitates them in correct pronunciation. In addition, students become more enthusiastic and not bored when learning vocabulary because they can

read and get entertained through the Duolingo application. However, there are several obstacles experienced by students, namely they need an internet connection to be able to access the Duolingo application. In practice for classroom learning, it is still necessary to have supervision from the teacher so that students can still focus on using Duolingo only for learning purposes. By using the Duolingo application, there are students who feel more confident in reading English vocabulary. Based on the results of this review, it can be concluded that the use of the Duolingo application in learning English for student's vocabulary mastery has a positive impact on students' vocabulary.

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