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v 8.0.12 - WML 3 FILE - SHELLA NABILLA.DOCX Improving English pronunciation skill 7 using tongue twister technique through twistify application in junior high school

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Abstract

The objective of this research was to find out the result of the pronunciation skill of students in Junior High School before and after being given treatment using tongue twister technique through Twistify application. The populations in this research were students of class VIII SMP Negeri 1 Tayu, Pati, Central Java, Indonesia. The sample consisted of 34 students from class VIII B. The researcher used pre-experimental and implemented one group pre-test and post-test design. Based on the results, there was an increase in students' pronunciation skill from the pre-test with the mean score of 58.35 to the post-test with the mean score of 80 and an increase from the pre-test to the post-test by 37.10%. From the data calculation, the researcher found that t-test result was 46.442, and the value of df (degree of freedom) was 33. The value of t-table was obtained from df = 33 so that t-table = 2.035, so (t0 > tt), 46.442 > 2.035. 3 The Alternative Hypothesis (Ha) was accepted and Null Hypothesis (H0) was rejected. Thus, there was a significant difference between students' pronunciation skill before and after being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application.

Keywords: Pronunciation, tongue twister, twistify

1. Introduction

Language functions as a tool used by humans to communicate with each other in daily social interactions. With language, humans can provide information, express opinions, give criticism and suggestions, persuade someone, and others. Crystal & Robins (2023) states that language is a conventional system consisting of manual, spoken, and written symbols that allows all people in a particular culture to interact or communicate. Therefore, humans without language 2 cannot communicate with each other. In this world, many languages are used by humans to communicate. **5** The premier source of linguistic data, there are approximately 7,168 spoken languages in the world today (Eberhard et al., 2023). However, this number is constantly changing and is not included in dialects. **2** Language has a number that is not fixed because language develops and changes according to society and situations in the world.

In this world, there are various kinds of languages that humans can use to communicate, one of which is English. English is also referred to 7 as an international language throughout the world, so many people use English to communicate. According to Roux (2014), many people use English, so English 4 has become the language commonly used and the dominant language for international business, academia, science, and technology. English is designated as the official language in 67 countries, while 27 countries adopt English as a second language (Ilyosovna, 2020). Because of the importance of using English as an international communication tool, everyone should learn English as early as possible.

Students must master the four main English skills, namely speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Speaking is one of the priority abilities that students must master. Richards (2008) argues that for second language learners and foreign language learners, speaking ability is a very important priority. Therefore, in speaking skill a student must have good

and correct pronunciation skill. If the speaker has very bad pronunciation, the listener cannot understand the meaning of the speaker's speech (Gilakjani, 2011). This is because good and correct pronunciation makes the listener understand the message and intent to be conveyed by the speaker.

The research location was at SMP Negeri 1 Tayu. According to observation that the researcher made before, it was found that the students were still struggling to pronounce English fluently. Students at SMP Negeri 1 Tayu admitted that they had difficulty pronouncing English words or sentences because the sound of English words or sentences was different from the written form. Many students also felt confused because

the pronunciation of words in English was very different from the pronunciation in Indonesian. They added that they felt insecure and nervous when they pronounced English. Besides that, there were several factors, such as the lack of hours of learning English and the habit of students using their mother tongue or regional languages. Nowadays, there are many techniques, strategies, or methods that teachers can use to improve students' English pronunciation skill. One effective technique for teaching pronunciation to students in an easy and fun way is 7 to use the tongue twister technique through Twistify application. Tongue twister refers to a collection of words that present difficulties to pronounce correctly, fluently, and quickly (Carmen, 2010). This technique makes students practice pronouncing English correctly by using several similar words.

While, Twistify is an application to test students' pronunciation fluency by using difficult-topronounce phrases or commonly known as tongue twister. Twistify created by Davin Seng and released on June 15, 2020. Twistify is listed in the education category on the Google Play Store and more than 10,000 people have downloaded it. Twistify application can be a tool to measure pronunciation skill and identify weaknesses so that pronunciation skill can be improved. Twistify application can help students learn English pronunciation in an easier and more fun way.

According to the background of the research, the problem statements can be summarized as follows:

How is the pronunciation skill of students in grade 8th of SMP Negeri 1 Tayu before they are taught by using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application?
 How is the pronunciation skill of students in grade 8th of SMP Negeri 1 Tayu after they are taught by using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application?
 Is there any significant difference in the pronunciation skill of students in 8th grade of SMP Negeri 1 Tayu before and after they are taught by using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application?

2. Theoretical Framework

Pronunciation

According to Oxford Learner's Dictionaries (n.d.), pronunciation is how people pronounce a language or a certain word or sound. Yates and Zielinski (2009) state that how sound is produced so that it can give meaning when speaking is called pronunciation. Pronunciation is 2 one of the priority aspects in speaking English because pronunciation can affect the meaning of the speech. Gilakjani (2011) also adds that if the speaker has very bad pronunciation, the listener cannot understand the meaning of the speaker's speech. When the listener cannot understand the speaker's pronunciation, it causes miscommunication with other individuals. Therefore, pronunciation is an important component in oral communication, so that when people pronounce words correctly and clearly, they produce

a collection of speech units (Berry, 2021). In short, pronunciation refers to the way people pronounce words
 to ensure that the contents of the conversation can be understood by others.

Tongue Twister

Tongue twister refers to a collection of words that present difficulties to pronounce correctly, fluently, and quickly (Carmen, 2010). It is difficult to pronounce because they contain many similar sounds. Not only that, a tongue twister is highly interesting because they incorporate various sounds that are similar while often having distinct meaning and written form. Further, Gonzales (2009) asserts that in every language class, tongue twister is a fun activity. The faster someone can pronounce tongue twister sentences without stuttering, the better their language skills (Lutfiani, 2017). Tongue twister exercises can be beneficial for people learning English as they strengthen their speaking skill. The tongue twister also has the benefit of stimulating the brain to develop pronunciation skill. From this theory, it can be concluded 1 that tongue twisters are words that have a different written form but have the same pronunciation and must be spoken quickly. Tongue twisters can make learning pronunciation fun and easy so that they are motivated to be enthusiastic about learning pronunciation.

Twistify

Twistify is an application to test students' pronunciation fluency by using difficult-topronounce phrases or commonly known as tongue twister. Twistify is an application that has been published by Davin Seng and released on June 15, 2020. Twistify is listed in the education category on the Google Play Store and more than 10,000 people have downloaded it. According to Seng, Twistify is made for people who want to improve their speech fluency, especially those who have speech difficulties. Seng adds that Twistify is different from other applications in that it can score the speech performance of tongue twister. Therefore Twistify application can be a tool to measure pronunciation skill and identify weaknesses so that pronunciation skill can be improved.

3. Research Method

In this research, the researcher used quantitative design. The researcher used preexperimental and implemented one group pre-test and post-test design. The researcher in this study only used one group without a control group. The group was given treatment using 1 the tongue twister technique through Twistify application.

The populations in this research were students of class VIII SMP Negeri 1 Tayu, Pati, Central Java, Indonesia. In this study, a technique was used to obtain a sample, namely purposive sampling technique. The sample for this study comprised 34 students from class VIII B. The researcher chose this class out of nine existing classes because in this class there were still many students who were unable to pronounce English words or sentences. In class VIII B only a few students mastered English pronunciation skill. This class was also a recommendation from the English teacher at SMP Negeri 1 Tayu.

The research instrument was carried out with a pronunciation test before being given treatment and after being given treatment. The test used the Twistify application where students individually had to pronounce a several tongue twister sentences. Twistify application 3 was able to check the correctness of students' pronunciation using the voice recognition service. An automatic score was available on the Twistify application after a student pronounces tongue twister sentence.

The researcher in this study used statistical data analysis techniques. The researcher used software, namely the 12 Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 24 to analyze the data to find out the results of student tests conducted before and after receiving treatment.

4. Result and Discussion

1. Students' Pronunciation Skill Before Using the Tongue Twister Technique through Twistify Application The pre-test was given to students using Twistify application by pronouncing tongue twister sentences to test students' pronunciation skill before being given treatment. The pre-test was conducted on April 3rd, 2023. It consisted of 34 students. The results of pre-test can be seen in the following table:

Table 1. The List of Pre-Test Score No. Students' Initial Name Score Mark 1 ABDL 59 Fairly 2 ASA 52 Poor 3 AN 58 Fairly 4 AWN 50 Poor 5

ADS	
57	
Fairly	
6	
ANA	
71	
Fairly Good	
7	
AN	
65	
Fairly	
8	
CMA	
56	
Fairly	
9	
DLF	
60	
Fairly	
10	
DRS	
54	
Poor	
11	
FFCC	
59	
Fairly	
12	

FA	
64	
Fairly	
13	
FNH	
55	
Poor	
14	
HW	
51	
Poor	
15	
IAA	
56	
Fairly	
16	
IAP	
68	
Fairly Good	
17	
JANK	
52	
Poor	
18	
JVSP	
61	
Fairly	
19	

KDL	
63	
Fairly	
20	
КОР	
53	
Poor	
21	
KNFN	
55	
Poor	
22	
NYR	
62	
Fairly	
23	
NAN	
50	
Poor	
24	
NAH	
58	
Fairly	
25	
NFA	
66	
Fairly Good	
26	

OSM	
54	
Poor	
27	
RMA	
60	
Fairly	
28	
RNZ	
57	
Fairly	
29	
SAA	
55	
Poor	
30	
SZA	
59	
Fairly	
31	
SFM	
56	
Fairly	
32	
TATD	
73	
Fairly Good	
33	

TSR		
54		
Poor		
34		
ТВ		
61		
Fairly		

Table 2	Descriptive	Statistics	Pre-Test
	Descriptive	Otatistics	110-1030

Ν

Minimum

Maximum

Sum

Mean

Std. Deviation

Variance

Pretest

34

50.00

73.00

1984.00

58.3529

5.69892

32.478

Valid N (listwise)

34

From the results of the pre-test, the researcher found that the smallest score was 50 and the greatest score was 73. Meanwhile, the mean score was 58.35 and many students got the score was less than 60. This shows that the results of students' pronunciation skill scores are still low. Therefore, the researcher conducted treatment 18 using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application to improve students' pronunciation skill.

2. Students' Pronunciation Skill After Using the Tongue Twister Technique through Twistify Application

The post-test was given after receiving treatment 2 to be able to find out the comparison of students' pronunciation skill. Post-test was conducted on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023. It consisted of 34 students. In this study the post-test was to determine students' pronunciation skill after being given treatment using 1 the tongue twister technique through Twistify application. The results of post-test can be seen in the following table:

Table 3. The List of Post-Test Score No. Students' Initial Name Score Mark 1 ABDL

79	
Good	
2	
ASA	
77	
Good	
3	
AN	
76	
Good	
4	
AWN	
70	
Fairly Good	
5	
ADS	
80	
Good	
6	
ANA	
88	
Very Good	
7	
AN	
86	
Very Good	
8	
СМА	

77	
Good	
9	
DLF	
80	
Good	
10	
DRS	
76	
Good	
11	
FFCC	
81	
Good	
12	
FA	
87	
Very Good	
13	
FNH	
78	
Good	
14	
HW	
69	
Fairly Good	
15	
IAA	

76	
Good	
16	
IAP	
86	
Very Good	
17	
JANK	
77	
Good	
18	
JVSP	
82	
Good	
19	
KDL	
87	
Very Good	
20	
KOP	
73	
Fairly Good	
21	
KNFN	
81	
Good	
22	
NYR	

86
Very Good
23
NAN
71
Fairly Good
24
NAH
79
Good
25
NFA
88
Very Good
26
OSM
83
Good
27
RMA
84
Good
28
RNZ
78
Good
29
SAA

75
Fairly Good
30
SZA
85
Good
31
SFM
79
Good
32
TATD
90
Very Good
33
TSR
74
Fairly Good
34
ТВ
82
Good

Table 4. Descriptive Statistics Post-Test

Ν

Minimum

Maximum

Sum		
Mean		
Std. Deviation		
Variance		
Postest		
34		
69.00		
90.00		
2720.00		
80.0000		
5.48276		
30.061		
Valid N (listwise)		
34		

From the results of the post-test, the researcher found that the smallest score was 69 and the greatest score was 90. Meanwhile, the mean score was 80 and many students got the score was more than 80. This shows that the results of the students' pronunciation skills are good. There was an increase in students' pronunciation skill from the pre-test with the mean score of 58.35 to the post-test with the mean score of 80 and an increase from the pre-test to the post-test by 37.10%.

3. Result of the Normality Test

Table 5. The Result of Normality for Pre-Test and Post-Test

Based on table above, it can be known that the significance of the pre-test and post-test is 0.200. From these result, the 15 pre-test and post-test got the bigger significance than the level of significance that is 0.05 (0.200>0.05), so it can be concluded that the data from both pre-test and post-test are distributed normally.

4. Paired Sample T-Test

Table 6. Paired Sample T-Test

The table shows that t0 (count) = 46.442 and df = N-1 or 34-1 = 33. 5 The value of t-table was obtained from df = 33 so that t-table = 2.035, so (t0 > tt), 46.442 > 2.035. Thus, there

was significant difference between students' pronunciation skill before and after being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application. Therefore, **a** the Alternative Hypothesis (Ha) was accepted and Null Hypothesis (Ho) was rejected. Based on **a** the result of this study, the researcher was able to demonstrate that the tongue twister technique through Twistify application can be used as a new technique and application for learning English, especially to improve pronunciation. The researcher was able to demonstrate that using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application improved students' pronunciation skill significantly. The researcher was able to demonstrate that the students' pronunciation skills improved significantly before and after being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application. **2** It **can be a** very good reason for teachers to start experimenting with new technique and application that are more interesting and fun in classroom learning activities, such as using the tongue twister technique through the Twistify application.

5. Conclusion (and Suggestion)

1 The result of the pronunciation skill scores of the Junior High School before being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application was found that the smallest score was 50 and the greatest score was 73. 17 The mean of students' score from the pre-test was 58.35 and many students got the score was less than 60. It was concluded that before being given treatment with 1 the tongue twister technique through Twistify application, the students' pronunciation skill was still low.

The result of the pronunciation skill scores of the Junior High School after being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application was found that the smallest score was 69 and the greatest score was 90. 17 The mean of students' score from the post-test was 80 and many students got the score was more than 80. There was an increase in students' pronunciation skill from the pre-test with 8 the mean score of 58.35 to the post-test with the mean score of 80 and experienced an increase of 37.10%. It was concluded that after being given treatment with 1 the tongue twister technique

through Twistify application, the students' pronunciation skill was good.

From paired sample t-test the researcher found that t-test result was 46.442, and **5** the value of df (degree of freedom) was 33. The value of t-table was obtained from df = 33 so that t-table = 2.035, so (t0 > tt), 46.442 > 2.035. Thus, there was significant difference between students' pronunciation skill before and after being given treatment using the tongue twister technique through Twistify application. Therefore, **3** the Alternative Hypothesis (Ha) was accepted and Null Hypothesis (Ho) was rejected. Based on research result, the tongue twister technique through Twistify application is effective in improving students' pronunciation skill. So far, the researcher was the first to conduct research using the Twistify application.

In accordance with the conclusions above, the researcher has several suggestions. Teachers should use 7 tongue twister technique through Twistify application as a new technique and application for learning English, especially to improve students' pronunciation skill. Teachers should start experimenting with new techniques and applications that are more interesting and fun in classroom learning activities, especially in learning English. Teachers should take advantage of technological advances to make teaching and learning English easier and more enjoyable. Students should use tongue twister technique through Twistify application, because it can improve the students' pronunciation skill. Students should use technological advances to improve their skills, especially to improve pronunciation skill. Students should be more active and focused in learning and teaching activities in the classroom. For the future researchers should close the gaps and weakness 10 in this research. Future researchers should conduct research using new techniques and applications to improve students' English skills, especially pronunciation skill.

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