STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF USING ZOOM MEETING TO IMPROVE SPEAKING SKILLS DURING ONLINE LEARNING

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Abstract

The change in learning systems from face-to-face interactions in classrooms to online learning systems during the Covid-19 pandemic is having a profound impact on the learning process. A variety of learning activities should be presented for the continuation of the learning process. These changes lead to different learning needs of students. This study explores student perceptions of using Zoom Meeting for online learning in teaching English speaking skills. The study has been conducted at IIK STRADA Indonesia. Students of the third semester were chosen as the respondents of this study selected by using purposive sampling. The data were obtained from questionnaires and interviews. The questionnaire was distributed using Google Form. As a result, the researcher found that students can easily understand some language learning materials by using Zoom meetings. However, in other cases, most of the students were bored with implementing online courses and suffered from lack of motivation to study during the COVID-19 pandemic. In summary, the student expressed positive and negative attitudes towards using Zoom Meeting for online learning in teaching English speaking skills.

Keywords: zoom meeting application, speaking skill, online learning.

Introduction

During pandemic time, the teaching and learning process had to be done online or via e-learning. Of course, it needs teachers who can create or use various online applications for their learning process, so they can adequately achieve the learning goals they are supposed to achieve. According to Alabbasi, D. & Ed, D (2018), e-learning becomes new method of learning in higher education which replace traditional method. There are some application that we can use in conducting e-learning such as Edmodo, Moodle, Microsoft teams, Google Classroom, Skype, Zoom Meetings and other applications that support the learning process (Fitriyani, Febriyeni, and Kamsi, 2020). According to Guzacheva (2020), educators and teachers say one of the application which is commonly used today is Zoom Meeting. Zoom meeting is easier to use than other online video conferencing applications.

Online Education by Zoom helps teachers and students make the learning process go well, using technology tools and platforms that can manage the online learning process and enable students to succeed during the learning process in pandemic times. Online teaching with Zoom is also suitable for use in speaking classes as it makes interaction between students and teachers conversation effective. "Using the Zoom application, students can practice their speaking skills so they are comfortable speaking with Zoom participants and teachers can easily measure their speaking skills (Wargadinata, Wildana, et al. 2020).

Speech skills and is the communication skill that a person has to express ideas and thoughts that can be communicated to others. The communication process aims at conveying ideas to the interlocutor in order to obtain a response to the transmitted information. Learning to speak means training students to speak the language properly and accurately, and it also has complex skills that include factors such as willingness to learn, willingness to think, motivation, and instruction. To verbally convey a message or meaning in the form of an idea, we also need to improve the pronunciation of sentences that we have to use in conversation, especially the vocabulary and grammar.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, many students require a basic understanding of speaking, including vocabulary, grammar, fluency, correct pronunciation of words, and others. Due to the complexity of language, students face some difficulties in developing their speaking skills during the pandemic (Nunan, Teaching & Learning a Second Language, 1999). That's why teachers use the Zoom Meetings application to teach English. The Zoom application is a platform created by Eric Yuan that provides video-style communication and offers multiple convenient, cost-effective and easy-to-use features to suit your needs (Hrincirik 2018). The Zoom application has an activity recording feature that allows you to record meetings that can be accessed or replayed later if needed. Zoom has several advantages over other applications. One of them is that it can be accessed anytime, anywhere.

Many researchers have studied the role of technology-based media in language learning. For example, Brahma (2020) considers using Zoom as a medium for conducting e-learning. Fauziah (2021) found student perceptions and motivations for online learning via Zoom. Vitoria, Mislinawati, and Nurmasiitah (2018) investigated student perceptions of e-learning using web-based modules. They found that many Internet users find this easy, especially when learning online.

Based on the previous study, Zoom application effectiveness can be a reference for the teacher to be able to provide guidance and training speaking skill through the Zoom application. This study was conducted to determine students' perceptions of using Zoom application in improving speaking skills during online learning

Related Theory Review

Online learning

According to Rosenberg in (Alimuddin. Tawany Rahamma, 2015), the online process refers to the use of internet technology to provide various solutions and possibly increase knowledge and

skills. What we mean by online is the teaching and learning process using internet technology so that learning does not need to be done directly only with the media so that students can easily absorb it without having to gather. a room.3 The above quote is understandable. Online learning is learning to use technology to complete tasks that students achieve. In the online learning process, there is no eye contact, but communication occurs through means such as computers, television, radio, telephone, internet, video, etc.

The main purpose of online is to help students make the teaching and learning process easier without having to meet face to face or gather together, as has been done during this pandemic, learning is done online because all schools are required to implement online learning so that it is not crowded or crowded. This joint operation is an effort by the government to suppress the spread of the Covid-19

Zoom meeting application

According to Korman (2020), Zoom is a video conferencing application that you can remotely communicate with other people during a live chat using video only, audio only, or both. You can also record your meeting and view it later. Zoom application can be accessed from computer or mobile phone by internet. Haqien & Rahman (2020) state that the Zoom meeting application is video-based learning. Zoom meetings can only be accessed over the internet using tablets, computers, or other mobile phones. You can download the Zoom app from the Play Store and App Store. There are two types of zoom meetings: free and paid. Free zoom meeting will be over for each 40 minutes. For effective learning process it is better if the teachers used Paid zoom Moreover, teachers can increase their knowledge and provide interesting and effective learning. Using the Zoom application is good for both students and teachers as distance and time are not the focus of teaching and learning activities. Zoom conferencing as a medium for long-distance communication that combines video conferencing, chat, and online meetings. Zoom application gives many advantages for education. One of the advantages of zoom meetings can be used for presentations, discussions and webinars

Zoom has both advantages and disadvantages. A disadvantage of using Zoom is connectivity issues. Zoom was intuitive, but few participants had trouble joining the sessions. Common technical issues include low internet bandwidth, outdated hardware, and limited webcams and microphones. Call quality and reliability issues. Some participants reported video or audio quality issues during Zoom meetings. This incident may be caused by an unreliable internet connection or mobile device usage, which may result in dropped calls, dropped calls, or delays. Distractions may be caused by participants' inadequate home or office facilities. Setup issues include poor webcam functionality, software incompatibilities, low device battery, and audio issues (e.g. no audio without headphones).

Speaking Skills

English is being international language in the world. The ability to speak English is important skills for students as English is the universal language used in the worlds of technology, education, politics and commerce and has become a common means of communication around the world. There are four skills in learning English: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Speaking skills can be classified as good speaking skills if the words uttered by the speaker can be understood by the listener. According to Irawati (2014) Speaking as an activity that produces utterances in the form of words and phrases to communicate orally with other people. Speech is the process of expressing an opinion in the mind. Also, the ability to speak is the oral ability to have a rich vocabulary, to be polite, to express the content of one's thoughts through feelings and ideas, and to communicate with people.

Method

This study used a descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative method focuses on understanding social phenomena from the perspective of human participants in the natural environment. Therefore, qualitatively descriptive methods refer to retrieving data from existing sources to describe observations (Ary, Jacobs, Sorensen, & Razavieh, 2010).

Respondents

This research took respondents from the third semester students at IIK STRADA. There were 20 respondents. The technique of determining the participants as the research sample used purposive sampling. This technique is used for conscious informant selection according to the student's competencies regarding the themes, concepts, and phenomena being studied in the study (Robinson, 2014).

Data Collection Process

Process of data collection through questionnaires, interviews. Questionnaires are used to collect student perceptions of online applications in learning speaking skills. Interviews were conducted after the speaking learning process was completed.

Finding and Discussion

Researcher asked questions through questionnaires and interviews. Below are the results of the questionnaire and an interview with the respondents. Results are displayed based on each survey. Below is a graph of the percentages obtained for each component required by students. The rating scale he divides into two categories: students' attitudes toward use of the Zoom application and the students' perceptions of the impact of using the Zoom application on improving speaking skills.

Table 1. Student Attitudes toward using the Zoom Application

Statements	Yes	No
I enjoyed using the Zoom application during pandemic time	70%	30%
I got tired of joining zoom in my class	80%	20%
Zoom application can increase my motivation to study	35%	65%
I find some troubles when studying by zoom	68 %	32%

In line with student attitudes towards using Zoom Meetings, data shows 70% of students enjoy using Zoom Meetings during online classes indicates that about 80% of students are bored with using Zoom Meetings during online classes. 35% of his students reported that learning online using Zoom Meetings did not improve their motivation to learn. Additionally, 68% are having trouble learning on his Zoom.

Table 2. Student perceptions of the effect of using zoom on improving speaking skills

Statements	Yes	No
I can improve my speaking skills with online learning using Zoom	67%	33%
I study online using only the Zoom app. I can remember some more vocabulary	56%	44%
I prefer speaking tasks online so I can do them without help from others people.	33%	67%
I have no problem answering teacher question	70%	30%
Doing online learning using Zoom application I can understand the lessons easily	80%	20%

Consistent with students' perception of the impact of Zoom meetings on improving speaking skills, using Zoom meetings for online learning improved speaking skills. The data showed that 67% agreed that using Zoom Meetings for online learning improved their speaking skills, and 56% of students retained their vocabulary better when studying alone online using Zoom Meetings. On the other hand, 67% of students dislike speaking online and cannot speak without the help of others, and about 70% of students can easily answer teacher's questions. In addition, 80% of students agree that learning online with Zoom Meetings makes their lessons easier to understand.

In addition, the researcher also conducted interviews. Interviews are a method for researcher to get more information from informants. Researcher use this method to support the data collection. Researcher interviewed two of her students. The results can be displayed as follows.

Q1: What do you know about Zoom?

Student A answered that she knew about Zoom is a virtual communication medium often used to facilitate learning and webinars. While student B answered, "This is an app that I use in online classes." Both of these statements are true. It can be used not only as an application for holding online courses, but also as a platform for communication between people.

Q2: What difficulties did you encounter in introducing Zoom to your speaking class?

Both of the students had the same problem when using Zoom. A common problem when using this application is poor internet connection, quota usage. Moreover, newbies using this application struggle with the different menus of this application. Zoom has several features that users can use. It actually aims to make the teaching and learning process easier for students and teachers.

Q3: How do you usually solve this problem?

Student A will try to overcome the obstacles by go to the another place which has the better internet connection , while student B had a different way of solving problems in online classes, the first thing he tried to solve this problem by turn off the video and turn on just the speakers. That way, he'll at least be able to participate in the class by listening and watching until it's done.

Q4: Do you think this app will bring a new dimension to your learning process?

Student A agrees with the question because it is not easy to adapt this application to the learning process. However, after an adjustment period, this application can be used easily meet and talk without being in the same place, but, It would be boring if all subjects conducted with Zoom. Another student answered this question. Student B answered that learning online using zoom application give her new experience

Q5: Should the zoom implementation be improved? Why?

Student A said all the features in the zoom application were very good, very easy to understand. In addition, student B answered No, because studying by zoom needs much quota and sometimes internet access is unstable in some areas.

Looking back at the data, it can be interpreted that there are pros and cons to using Zoom Meetings for online learning to improve English skills. Most students find using the Zoom Meeting application very helpful in their online courses. They love Zoom meetings. However, quite a few also agree that using Zoom Meetings makes students bored and lazy. This is because I want to meet my teachers and friends in person. They prefer to learn firsthand so that their work results are better. Also, students have a hard time learning how to use Zoom. Unstable internet connection and quota usage cause some problems.

Additionally, consistent with students' perception that using Zoom improves their speaking skills, the data shows that most students are able to improve their speaking skills by online using Zoom Meetings. Using Zoom meetings in speaking classes makes it easier for them to follow the class. However, he students are more interested in and understand the teacher's face-to-face explanations because students receive direct feedback from both the teacher and peers when learning takes place face-to-face. From this, we can conclude that online classes using Zoom Meetings are boring. For students looking to improve their English skills, using Zoom Meetings has many advantages and disadvantages. It depends on the student's determination to continue learning English.

Zoom has both advantages and disadvantages. A disadvantage of using Zoom is connectivity issues. Zoom was intuitive, but few participants had trouble joining the sessions. Common technical issues such as low internet bandwidth, outdated hardware, and error on webcams and microphones. Some participants reported video or audio quality issues during Zoom meetings. This incident may be caused by an unstable internet connection or mobile device usage, which may result in disconnected, or delays. Distractions may be caused by participants' inadequate internet quota, Setup issues include poor webcam functionality, software incompatibilities, low device battery, and audio issues (e.g. no audio without headphones).

Conclusion

This Research shown that using Zoom meetings for online learning has positive and negative effects when teaching English skills. The Zoom Meetings application makes it easy to follow some of the learning material for your speaking class. In addition, teachers who are always proactive in interacting with their students and using English will be more proactive in improving their students' speaking skills. On the other hand, during the COVID-19 pandemic, most students got bored while conducting online courses. They are increasingly unmotivated to learn as they seek more effective face-to-face learning.

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