

EXPLORING THE BENEFIT AND POTENTIAL OF WORD WALL IN READING

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Abstract

Education will become more advanced along with technological advances. The purpose of this research is to determine the benefits and potential of the word wall application as a tool to measure students' ability to use the word wall application and students' understanding of vocabulary. Apart from that, to find out how effectively students use the word wall application in the teaching and learning process. This research is classified as qualitative research, the sample for this research is Higher Education. Data was collected through observation, interviews and documentation. This study reveals two main aspects, namely Benefits and Potential which aims to find out how each student uses the application individually. The results show that qualitative research consistently improves students' language skills and vocabulary understanding.

Keywords : *Word wall Application, Benefits and Potentials, Vocabulary, Reading.*

INTRODUCTION

Technological developments are currently increasingly advanced. Various technological discoveries in the field of education have been introduced and developed, and some are even available on a national scale. The field of educational technology focuses on finding solutions to learning challenges by applying a range of approaches and concepts (Awaluddin et al., 2021). Technology is currently increasingly advanced. Numerous technology innovations in education have been introduced and developed, with a few even being made available on a nationwide scale. The field of educational technology focuses on finding solutions to learning challenges by applying a range of approaches and concepts (Awaluddin et al., 2021). Both teachers and students can gain many benefits from the existing opportunities and advantages obtained in the language learning process which is supported by technology. With the help of various interactive activities, multimedia resources and materials, students can speed up the language learning process and increase their motivation levels.

Learning using technology has advantages, such as strengthening interpersonal skills and active engagement, but also has disadvantages in terms of information accessibility, efficiency, and the ability to adapt learning to individual needs, (Student Perceptions of Self-Directed Learning and Collaborative Learning with and without Technology, 2014). This is confirmed by Adeline, C., & Irwansyah, I. (2022) who states that students can utilize ICT (Information, Communication, Technology) anytime and anywhere to collaborate, communicate and share knowledge. The Ministry of National Education is currently preparing competency standards for the 2004 curriculum, which stipulates that Indonesian students must be able to understand and express information, thoughts and feelings as well as develop science, technology and culture using competency-oriented English and skills as a result of the process. studying in school.

The use of technology in the teaching and learning process is very important, both inside and outside the classroom. In recent years, there have been extraordinary technological advances that have had an impact on various aspects of human life, including education in the world. According to (Shadiev, 2020) defines technology as the process of accomplishing a learning objective or instructional goal through the use of technological procedures, methods,

or information. The field of technology-enhanced language learning (TELL) has contributed to the development of the educational system since there are numerous approaches using technology in the classroom. It is supported by (Gilakjani, 2017) stating that technology has impacted language learning. Hence, language learning has been helped and improved by the use of technology. According to (Nguyen, 2021) there are always two sides to everything, and technology integration in classrooms is no exception, as both instructors and students have discovered throughout time, because multimedia utilization is not always as beneficial as we may believe. Hence, the goal of this study is to determine the benefits and challenges of the use of TELL. TELL is the main focus in language education. Technological developments allow educators to access various learning resources, such as the Word Wall application found on learning websites and online learning platforms. TELL's various tools and applications are designed to provide interactive and engaging learning experiences, which can increase student motivation and involvement in the learning process. Additionally, TELL allows students to practice their language skills independently. Although TELL has great potential to improve language learning, usage issues must also be addressed. Combining technology with effective and relevant learning methods is a huge challenge. In addition, some groups of educators have limited access to technology and some regions have limited technological infrastructure. To maximize the benefits of TELL in language learning, educators must work together to address these issues and find sustainable solutions.

Reading, writing, speaking and listening are basic skills that must be needed in the teaching and learning process, especially for learning English. Reading is a very enjoyable hobby and really helps us to learn new things, expand our knowledge and obtain a lot of information. Reading is the most important activity or learning process for achieving academic achievement because it is very important for personal progress and reading plays an important role in the learning process in the classroom, because knowledge is obtained from reading. According to Surkamp and Viebrock (2018), reading is a complex process that has many aspects. Obtaining information from written text requires a variety of cognitive processes. Healy (in Que and Wakim, 2020) says reading comprehension is the ability to understand not only the language used to write, but also to understand the concepts underlying the text and gain a deeper understanding of what is written.

According to Galih (as quoted in Kasim, 2013:22), this media is designed to become a synergistic tool for students and contains several references or slang that can be used while writing. This will strengthen them to learn enthusiastically in class. They can practice some say. According to Widikasih (2008:14), Word Wall has several advantages. 1) It will improve students' ability to memorize vocabulary and compose sentences. 2) The references on the word wall will support their writing skills during English class. This advantage will be helping students to convey their ideas in writing.

3) This media can also help students develop paragraphs referring to a given theme. 4) Also provides many activities that allow students to practice writing instantly and automatically.

According to Schmit (2023), the Word wall application really helps students by offering a visual representation of frequently used keywords and improving their recognition and understanding of these words. Consistent exposure and use across these multiple contexts is critical to deep learning. Marzano (2023) added that the word wall application can be adjusted to accommodate different learning styles and ability levels, as well as providing support to students who need help and providing challenges for them to become more proficient in using technology. The application of word wall application is a teaching strategy that has many benefits and potential and effectiveness for improving their language skills and vocabulary.

METHODS

Max van Manen's concept of "lived experience" is central to his approach to qualitative research methodology, particularly in the fields of education and the human sciences. He defined "lived experience" as an individual's everyday, unique, and personal experience, as distinct from abstract generalizations and theories. This approach emphasizes the importance of understanding human experience in its natural context, without relying on external frameworks or theories. This research uses a type of qualitative research conducted by means of interviews and case studies conducted in this case study on a limited or small scale. This study looked at students' responses and their reasons for using word walls in class to gain vocabulary. Participants in this research were UMBY Yogyakarta students. To answer the research proposal above, researchers need accurate facts and information so that research data obtained from student answers during interview sessions finds many positive and negative sides to users of the word wall application. The teacher requires students to play the Word Wall as part of the learning design. Second, the teacher instructs students to log in to the Word wall using the join code. Finally, the teacher encourages students to react to the Word Wall platform questions. When students complete the quiz, the results will be revealed. For example, after studying each chapter, the teacher asks students to participate in a Word wall quiz game. Semi-structured interviews were used to obtain more detail in Data for this research was collected through observation and semi-structured interview formation regarding students' opinions about the benefits and potential of using Word walls in the classroom. To obtain data from interviews, researchers transcribed student utterances as verbal data from interviews into written documents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

● Results

- Benefits

Word wall is an online learning platform used in many schools and colleges around the world. One of the main advantages of a word wall is its ability to increase student learning motivation and the opinion of most students regarding the use of quizzes as a student assessment tool is positive, this indicates that this platform is very entertaining to use in class and helpful. Students focus more on the material they have studied. The response is shown below:

“Flexible application”

“Attract students' attention in class”

“Improving student learning” (Respondent 1)

The Word wall application has many features that can be used as learning media, the Word wall application is also a learning medium in which there are various types of media including quizzes, games, etc. so that learning feels more active and not boring and makes teachers more creative, the application This is used as a learning medium and assessment tool that can increase student interest in the learning process. Attract students' attention, either as a warm-up or even as the main teaching activity with various choices of activities that can be tried including quizzes, flashcards, spinning the wheel and games which also make it very easy for us as teachers to do it. The Word Wall application has many benefits for educators and students, where learning becomes more interesting and fun with interactive activities such as games and quizzes and increases student involvement and participation. Through interesting games, students can be encouraged to learn more by thinking critically to solve problems and actively participating. Word wall activities are a formative assessment tool that teachers can use to track student progress and determine areas for improvement. This application provides flexibility in the teaching and learning process through use in the classroom and at home on various devices such as computers, tablets and mobile phones. With the development of technology, word wall applications are very helpful for students and teachers to acquire important digital skills. And by

using a word wall, activities can be evaluated and analyzed to find out how well students understand and how to use the word wall application to help plan better teaching.

- Potential's

There are several potentials for students in using Word walls as an assessment tool in learning that they found, Namely:

“Accessibility means that the Word wall can be accessed via various devices such as computers, tablets and smartphones making it easier to use in various learning settings” (Respondent 1)

Motivate students in fun games and activities and increase student motivation in learning and help them be more focused and interested in learning material. Independent learning, where students can learn independently by participating in activities and games in the word column, which can improve their understanding. Evaluation and feedback, so Teachers can use Word walls to check students' understanding of the topics they have taught. These findings can provide immediate feedback to teachers and help measure their students' progress. Interactive teaching allows teachers to make learning activities more interesting and fun for students as well as offering convenience and can also be a very interesting option to produce learning media that is more interactive, packaged in an interesting and fun way for students in the class.

The Word wall application is a technology that really helps educators or users in creating various types of online games and activities. The Word Wall application is also very helpful for teachers in creating games such as puzzles, quizzes and activities that can be used to reinforce lesson material and attract students' attention. This interactive game makes the learning process more fun and attracts students' attention. Students can also receive immediate feedback from their activities and enable them to understand their mistakes and learn from them in real-time. This word wall application is web-based and can be accessed from various internet connection devices such as computers, tablets and mobile phones. This really allows users to use it both at home and in the classroom. These activities, which teachers can create and save, can also be reused or shared with colleagues. Everyone who is not usually involved in class discussions can be motivated to participate more actively in activities and games by using the Word Wall application. Gamification and competition elements can encourage students to be more active and creative. Word Wall allows teachers to create a more dynamic, engaging and effective learning environment. It helps students to gain better understanding and highly relevant skills in a fun and interactive way.

• **DISCUSSION**

- Benefits

Alkamel & Chauthaiwale (2018) emphasize the significance of integrating technology into education to enhance the learning experience. They argue that the benefits of technology are that it makes learning more dynamic, interactive and interesting for students. In particular, online communication platforms and language exchanges are effective tools for improving English reading skills. Platform also odng but also provides a means for students to assess their learning progress offers an effective and fun way for students to improve their comprehension and vocabulary in English. Readers are not encouraged to buy books because there are many platforms available on the word wall application that students can use, such as YouTube, Wattpad, and novels. According to Mahyudin (2022), students find it easier to comprehend and engage with their online learning materials when using applications like Wordwall. This tool not only facilitates understanding. By using the Word wall application in the teaching and learning process, students and teachers can interact directly and more effectively and make the learning process more efficient and insightful. In addition, the Word wall platform is also an easy-to-use tool for teachers who have limited time or lack confidence in using technology. Additionally, any material created can be shared with the Word wall community.

Effective involvement is related to feelings, perceptions and attitudes related to reading

(Kucirkova & Cremin, 2020). Effective engagement is no different influenced by these representations of diversity in the text. For students to develop a positive attitude about reading, they need to do it to connect their lives to the experiences presented in the text (Kucirkova & Cremin, 2020). Therefore, to address effective engagement it would be helpful for teachers to support student diversity, including students from different languages, cultures, and socio-economic backgrounds. Students can also improve their reading skills with the help of tools like the Word wall application. The Word wall platform can be used to increase students' interest in reading by choosing appropriate learning activities for students. This media or game can track student progress and proficiency. As a result, students benefit from the application. Students will have more fun studying online if they use this application. It is also easier for teachers to check students' work, and they do not need to check it individually. This platform can be a teaching innovation that can help teachers create fun learning for students.

- Potentials

Kuhn and Rasinski (2020) argue that regular interaction with words on a word wall can significantly enhance students' reading fluency. By frequently engaging with high-frequency words and common vocabulary, students can recognize these words more quickly, which in turn leads to faster and more accurate reading. This familiarity helps build a solid foundation for reading proficiency, contributing to overall literacy development. Seeing how effective the vocabulary column is in increasing students' reading interest in the context of English as a foreign language. By using the word board gamification feature, the learning environment becomes engaging and interactive. This allows students to improve their reading skills. These weaknesses include allowing students to concentrate more on the game aspect rather than learning material, and requiring them to always have internet access. Using digital resources such as word wall apps can help develop a student's vocabulary, which is the most important part of reading comprehension which makes vocabulary more accessible and interactive which is a blessing, which helps with better retention and comprehension. On the other hand, it can be ineffective if it is not properly incorporated into learning or if teachers do not suggest it often, Bear, D. R., Invernizzi, M., Templeton, S., & Johnston, F. (2019).

Although Word Wall has many advantages, such as interactivity, ease of use, and immediate feedback, it also has some limitations, such as not being able to use premium features. Word walls often demonstrate how effective they are in increasing student participation and understanding of course material. This allows for more interactive learning, which can increase student engagement and result in a better understanding of the course material, Kuhn, M. R., & Schwanenflugel, P. J. (2020).

The word wall can be accessed both online and offline, which provides more flexibility for students with internet limitations. Quick assessments and immediate feedback help students identify errors. By emphasizing the importance of using word walls in testing and evaluating learning outcomes, teachers can help students stay engaged, Gambrell, L. B., & Morrow, L. M. (2019).

It is recommended for English teachers to use this word wall application at school because this application can increase students' interest in learning English and as entertainment because this application is game-based. This application has many advantages, one of which is increasing students' interest in learning English because the elements in this application are very

CONCLUSION

Word walls are a great educational tool to improve students' reading skills. It improves students' reading skills, helps them learn independently, and increases their confidence in reading. However, signal problems cause them difficulties, such as unreliable internet connection and limited data distribution, which may interfere with their usage experience and their active participation in the assessment. Teachers can also help students stay engaged by

emphasizing the importance of using word walls for testing and assessing learning outcomes. This tool should be favored by English teachers in schools because it can increase students' desire to learn English and uses game-based learning elements. Helping students become more interested in learning English is one of the many advantages of this application because the Word Wall Aplikasi component is very interesting, and students can see the scores from their quizzes.

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