

THE USE OF PRONUNROID IN LEARNING ENGLISH TO IMPROVE PRONUNCIATION SKILLS

Ellisa Herawati¹, Arham Mauriyat²

IKIP Siliwangi

¹ ellisaherawati96@gmail.com, ² arham.mauriyat@gmail.com

Abstract

Pronunciation is the action or method of pronunciation of words; utterances, ways of speaking words, especially ways generally accepted or understood, and graphical representations of the way words are spoken, using phonetic symbols. In this journal the author wants to use supporting media as a tool to make pronunciation skills easier and can be done by anyone, whether in school or outside school, because pronunciation skills are very important in learning about foreign languages, pronunciation has become an indicator important for vocabulary and speaking. The author uses several sources from the internet such as journals, applications and videos. Due all elements are easier to navigate and indeed utilizing technological advancements in this era, The Writer hope that technological advances can facilitate the education world, especially in learning about the ability to pronounce in English.

Keywords: English Pronunciation, Mobile-Assisted Language Learning, Pronunroid

INTRODUCTION

Pronunciation is the act or manner of pronouncing words; utterance of speech, a way of speaking a word, especially a way that is accepted or generally understood, and a graphic representation of the way a word spoken, using phonetic symbols. According to Goodwin (2001), there is an initial level for pronunciation below which speakers are not able to communicate without regard to grammar and vocabulary knowledge. At level 2, what the speaker says can be understood by people but the speaker's pronunciation cannot be accepted by the listener because of a strange and heavy accent. Morley (1994) says that when the speaker's pronunciation is very accented, it can affect the speaker's understanding. At level 3, people understand the speaker and the speaker's English can be accepted. Scovel (1988) calls it comfortable intelligence, which should be the goal of English pronunciation.

According to James (2010), the aim of learning pronunciation for some people is an accent like a native speaker. This may be the main goal but could not be the ideal destination for teachers who intend to increase their students' pronunciation. In fact, Morley (1991, as cited by Robertson, (2003) states that comprehensible pronunciation is an important component of communicative competence. Therefore, in pronunciation classes, the teacher should speak clearly and slowly. and they have to ensure that their students' spoken language can be understood. This will help them improve their learners' pronunciation by listening to them carefully (Bradley-Bennett, 2007).

Harmer (2001, p. 183) claims that when the teacher “concentrates on sounds, shows where they are made in the mouth, makes students aware of where words should be emphasized - all these things give them additional information about English that is spoken and help them achieve their goals of increasing understanding and clarity.”

In addition, van Loon (2002) declares that practicing spelling-voice correspondence develops greater familiarity with orthographic forms, which helps students in the process of recognizing written words. Recitation and listening exercises also improve writing skills by reducing spelling mistakes caused by inaccurate pronunciation. According to Eady and Lockyer (2003), learning with technology has become important in schools today. Throughout the world, governments, the education system, researchers, school leaders, teachers and parents consider technology an important part of children's education. In Australia, for instance, it is recognized that technological advances have an influence on how people make, share, use and develop information in society, and that young people need to be highly skilled in the use of information and communication technology (ICT).

According (Laurengawne, 2015) in a note on her website, she was said, through Pronunroid students could get to know more about IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and learn it with a simpler learning method because it was wrapped in several games, thus making the learning process more innovative. Based on the expert opinions above about importance of teaching pronunciation in English assisted by technology, this study aims to investigate the use of the Pronunroid application in teaching English pronunciation.

METHOD

This research analyzed the importance of Pronunciation in Learning English, the research use Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning from the individual or groups a scribe for social human problems processes, the research involving questions and procedures that arise (Creswell, 2008), in taking data the writer uses a some journal, video and some applications as supporting media to improve pronunciation with correct way. In this research , the writer involved about 6 students who were invited to be involved in testing the pronunroid application, and then writer got the final result by conducting interviews wit these students. Based in the explanation from several students who have tried the application, their responses are devided into two things, the convenience and difficulty.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Results of interviews with students

The following below are some interview results by the students' that were taught with Pronunroid.

No	Students''	Advantage	Disadvantage	Year Tested
1	Student 1	makes a lot of things in English feel easier to say	requires an internet connection to use	2020
2	Student 2	make conversation practice smoother	When it works it is great but is very temperamental and closes during use regularly	2020
3	Student 3	feel better than before in English	sometimes it's forced stopped	2020

		lessons, especially in speaking		
4	Student 4	The application helps in recognizing the meaning of phonetic symbols	When it works it works well, but it only works half of the time.	2020
5	Student 5	provide other insights in English	sometimes the pronunciation is not the same as the sentence	2020
6	Student 6	become more confident in saying something in English	Need internet to access them	2020

Discussion

Based on the results that have been made to some students by using the application "Pronunroid - Science Pronunciation" it was found that, students felt a good change in their English skills especially in their pronunciation skills, according to some students the features in the application were not difficult to use. which makes their work easier in learning English and most importantly by using the application these students feel more confident in saying something in English According to Bers (2010) the technology development goal is to guide students in a positive use of technology, so that they can have a more fulfilling life for their future jobs or achieve innovative thinking to make the world a better place. In the learning processed of Pronunciation through online applications, the writer found a good change for students who have learned Pronunciation through the "Pronunroid - Science Pronunciation" application. The writer feels that by using supporting media the ability to pronounce students can still be developed, even though step by step it must be directed by the teacher as direction. Hopefully in the future there will be more applications that have similar features, so that it can help the student's learning process become more interesting and developing. Based on student opinion this application has helped them in learning pronunciation but there are still some important points that need to be considered because this application still has deficiency. Especially for teachers who will use this application as a tool, it is recommended that teachers understand the latest version, because each update has which new features.

CONCLUSION

Learning by using an online application can be used as an alternative that is quite influential on students some of the positive things that have been obtained by students in this study are, students who become more confident in pronunciation English, are easier to express something and have a pretty good increase in grades thereafter. There are some difficulties that are generally a challenge in the learning process using this online application, one of which is the disruption of the internet connection, the student's cellphone is in trouble and some applications are too many advertisements. There are several things to remember that learning to use this application must still be supervised by the teacher, because students will certainly have difficulty translating a phonetic symbol so that the essence of learning is inappropriate. From some of the obstacles above, hopefully it can be a good signal for later and hopefully useful for researchers who use similar techniques.

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