

# ***STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE USE OF ENGLISH SONGS FOR VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT***

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**Abstract:** *This study aims to find out students' perception on the use of english songs for vocabulary development. This research used a mixed method design, namely by using questionnaires and interviews. The respondents were second-semester students of the English Education Department University of Riau. The technique used in collecting data was 14 item statement questionnaire for 40 students and 5 question interview for 5 respondents who like listening to English songs. The results of the research show that students really like English songs and have a positive perception of English song lyrics as a learning medium for vocabulary development. One way that can be used in teaching vocabulary in class is by using English songs. Based on the results obtained, English songs are very influential in increasing vocabulary. English songs also make students not bored by listening to songs.*

**Keywords:** *English Songs, Perception, Vocabulary.*

# PERSEPSI SISWA TERHADAP PENGGUNAAN LAGU BAHASA INGGRIS UNTUK PERKEMBANGAN KOSA KATA

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**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi siswa terhadap penggunaan lagu bahasa Inggris untuk pengembangan kosa kata. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain metode campuran yaitu dengan menggunakan kuesioner dan wawancara. Respondennya adalah mahasiswa semester dua Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Riau. Teknik yang digunakan dalam pengumpulan data adalah 14 item pernyataan angket untuk 40 siswa dan 5 pertanyaan wawancara untuk 5 responden yang suka mendengarkan lagu berbahasa Inggris. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa siswa sangat menyukai lagu berbahasa Inggris dan memiliki persepsi positif terhadap lirik lagu berbahasa Inggris sebagai media pembelajaran pengembangan kosa kata. Salah satu cara yang dapat digunakan dalam pengajaran kosakata di kelas adalah dengan menggunakan lagu-lagu berbahasa Inggris. Berdasarkan hasil yang diperoleh, lagu berbahasa Inggris sangat berpengaruh dalam meningkatkan kosa kata. Lagu berbahasa inggris juga membuat siswa tidak bosan dalam mendengarkan lagu.

Kata kunci: Lagu bahasa inggris,persepsi,kosa kata

## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, acquiring a language is crucial for a person's social growth, one of which is mastery of English. As international language of communication, English is used to achieve trade, social-cultural, scientific, and technological objectives. Additionally, students must be proficient in English because it will help them feel more confident in the face of international competition (Wiwit, 2019).

Learning English is challenging for Indonesian students. Differences between the two languages, particularly the first language and the target language are the root of many learning issues. According to Muhibbin Syah (2005), Internal and external factors might have an impact on someone's ability to learn English. Student motivation, interests, talents, and intelligence are examples of internal elements that students can control. External influences include things like environmental circumstances, educational resources, and educational programs that are not directly related to the students themselves.

One of the most important skills students must learning English is vocabulary. For language learners, Vocabulary is a very important domain of knowledge for language acquisition (Cameron, 2001). The vocabulary consists of many well-known words in one language. In English, one word can have many meanings. In conveying ideas and concepts, you must have a lot of vocabulary for various kinds of words. Vocabulary learning can be a challenge for some people, especially if their first language is not English outside their own country. According to Rohmatillah (2015), there are various student obstacles in learning vocabulary, that is (1) The written form of English is different from the spoken form; (2) The number of words that must be mastered by students; (3) scarcity of reliable word sources of information; and (4) the complexity of word knowledge. Knowing a term requires more than knowing its description from a dictionary; (5) lack of understanding of the grammar of the word; (6) Incorrect English pronunciation is often caused by a lack of sound similarity between meaning and pronunciation.

According to Ulate (2008), Songs can foster a positive learning environment, defuse tension, inspire and motivate students, and even enhance their memory. Songs are well known in all circles as a tool for helping children in learning vocabulary quickly. According to Wrenshall (2010), students can increase their vocabulary by learning English through English songs. "There is also a lot of evidence that song enhance memorization, and the rhythm and rhyme of the lyrics can undoubtedly benefit vocabulary as well,". Some songs can influence listeners and increase brain activity during studying.

Vocabulary can also be used to indicate a context. In other words, vocabulary can be used in sentences that show a certain meaning and context. Multi-Word Units Is a type of English vocabulary that has a form as a working phrase or as an idiom. Example is in the lyrics of the song Beautiful in White: my life had found its missing piece', 'you're my every reason' and 'what we have is timeless', These lyrics have meaning to express romantic words for loved ones.

Same research about songs for vocabulary development was done by several researchers. First, in the research that conducted by Yohanna Ance (2026) in her research "Students Perception on the use of English Songs towards English Vocabulary Development ". The purpose of this study was investigate the students' perception on the use of English songs towards English vocabulary development and to compare the perception of seventh and eighth grade. The result of this research showed that the majority of students concur that English songs can help them expand their vocabulary and are also helpful in enhancing their command of the language.

Second, in the research that conducted by Hanif Fauzan (2019) with title Students Perception on English Song for Vocabulary Enrichment. This research aimed to know the students' perception on English songs for vocabulary enrichment. Based on the research

finding, the result showed that 79% which shows a high level, means that the students had a positive perception that English song could enrich their vocabulary. Besides, the interview result supported the questionnaire which shows that most of the respondents agreed that the song gave benefit to the aspect of vocabularies. There were meaning, spelling, pronunciation, word classes, word use, and Advantages of the song.

From the several previous studies above, the researcher found that there are some results that are obtained related using song. It is concluded that the students' use of songs for vocabulary development was effective and give enormous impact for students. There is also a different results, level of subject between the recent and the previous studies.

Based on the researcher's personal experience, listening to English songs gives listeners a lot of new words that can be used. Therefore, in this study ,the researcher would like to find out the students' perceptions in using English songs for vocabulary development.

## METHOD

In this research, this study used the explanatory mixed method design. According to Sugiyono (2016), a mixed method is a method that combines quantitative methods and qualitative methods to be used together or alternately, to obtain a more comprehensive, valid, reliable, and objective data result.

The writer prepare a research questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of 14 items with 5 answer choices that have been provided. The answer choices are Strongly Agree (SA) scored 5, Agree (A) scored 4, Undecided (U) scored 3, Disagree (D) scored 2, and Strongly Disagree (SD) scored 1. After that, the writer created an online questionnaire from Google form and asked the head of class 4 B to share the online questionnaire link in the WhatsApp group. Then the writer collects the results of the questionnaire from Google form data and analyzes them.

The data from the questionnaire were analyzed by using Microsoft Excel 2007 and SPSS (Statistical Product and Service Solution) Application Version 23 for Windows. The writer determined the validity and reliability of the questionnaire by using this software. The data from students' Likert scale questionnaires were statistically computed to determine each question's percentage.

A. The data analysis In calculating the percentage of data analyzed using the formula below:

$$P = \frac{f}{n} \times 100\%$$

Description:

P = Number of percentages

F = Frequency

N = Number of samples

B. Mean

$$\frac{\text{sum of all data points}}{\text{Number of data points}}$$

Next, the writer prepared interview questions for the students. The writer chose 5 people from class 4B. Then, the writer conducts one-by-one interviews with students in English via WhatsApp calls. When interviewing students, the writer used a recorder to record the interview process. Interviews were conducted for one day about 15-30 minutes for all students. After that, the writer copied the recorded conversation for analysis.

Miles and Huberman (1992) as cited in Rahayu (2022) used the following model to analyze the interview data. Many aspects analyze the interview including data reduction, data

visualization, and conclusion-making. First is the Reduction of data. It is the process of deciding which raw data from interviews, observations, documents, or other qualitative data to concentrate on, summarize, and present. The selection of information for the interview transcript was the researcher's main concern. The display of the data is the next step. At this point, the chosen data were shown in essays, tables, pictures, categorizations, and other formats. And the last Drawing and confirming conclusions. The researcher produced a conclusion based on the study questions after presenting the data.

## FINDINGS

### a. Results of quistionnaire

Below are the results of the questionnaire which shows that 79,78 % Of the majority of students really believe that English Songs have a big influence on vocabulary development

**Table 1**

No	Statements	SD		D		U		A		SA		Mean
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	I like listening to English songs	5	3%	0	0%	1	2%	2	4%	32	91%	88%
2	I listen to English Songs Everyday	6	4%	0	0%	3	6%	13	33%	18	57%	78%
3	I feel comfortable when I listen English Songs	5	3%	0	0%	1	2%	14	34%	20	61%	82%
4	English songs motivate me to learn English vocabulary	4	2%	2	2%	4	8%	8	32%	22	60%	81%
5	I like to learn English vocabulary through English Songs	5	3%	2	3%	3	6%	11	28%	19 %	60%	80%
6	English Songs are useful to Improving my English vocabulary	5	3%	0	0%	1	2%	16	40%	18	55%	81%
7	English songs are useful to improving my long-term memory	4	2%	1	1%	3	6%	14	35%	18	56%	80%
8	I can memorize	5	3%	0	0%	3	5%	13	32%	19	60%	80%

	English vocabulary Easily with the help of the lyrics English Songs											
9	I like to see the lyrics of English Songs while singing a song	5	3%	0	0%	3	5%	9	22%	23	70%	82%
10	I found a lot of new English vocabulary through the lyrics of English songs	3	2%	1	1%	4	7%	13	32%	19	58%	82%
11	Always find out the meaning of a difficult English vocabulary	3	2%	1	2%	4	9%	13	40%	12	47%	64%
12	I can figure out the meaning of the English vocabulary through the lyrics of English Songs.	4	3%	1	1%	8	17%	16%	42%	11	37%	75%
13	Finding new English vocabulary through English Songs is very interesting	4	2%	0	0%	3	5%	13	32%	20	61%	82%
14	Learning English vocabulary through English Songs is Very Interesting	4	2%	1	1%	1	2%	10	24%	24	71%	84%
	Mean	2,71%		64%		5,64%		30%		60,35%		79,78%

According to the results of the questionnaire, it was found that 88% of students really like English songs. 78% of students listen to English songs every day. 82% of students strongly agree that when listening to English songs they feel comfortable. 81% of students strongly agree that they are highly motivated through English songs in learning vocabulary. 80% of students strongly agree that they like learning vocabulary through English songs. 81% of students strongly agree that English songs are very useful for increasing vocabulary. 80%

of students strongly agree that English songs are very useful for improving vocabulary memory. 80% of students strongly agree that remembering vocabulary is easy with the help of English song lyrics. 82% of students really like to see lyrics when listening to English songs. 82% of students strongly agree that through English song lyrics they can find new vocabulary. 64% of students always find out the meaning of English vocabulary difficulties. 75% of students agree that they can find out the meaning of English vocabulary through English song lyrics. 82% of students strongly agree that discovering new vocabulary through English songs is very interesting. 84% of students strongly agree that learning vocabulary through English songs is very interesting

Based on the percentage above, it can be said that 88% the majority of students really like English songs, the middle percentage is 81% the majority of students strongly agree that English songs are useful for improving my English vocabulary, and the lowest percentage is found in the indicator that students always find the meaning of difficult English vocabulary with a percentage of 64% which indicates the "positive" category. Based on the highest percentage and lowest percentage, it can be concluded that students really like English songs because through English songs students can develop vocabulary, namely in knowing multi words unit contained in the lyrics.

Based on the Mean results, namely 79,78%, it shows that students' perception of using English songs for vocabulary development is positive. It can be interpreted that English songs have a big influence on vocabulary development.

## **b. Results of Interview**

### **1. Reason students like listening to English Songs.**

#### **a. Personal comfort**

"I like English songs. Because the songs made me feel comfortable. The song I like is Photograph by Ed Sheeran".

Interview#1

"I like listening to English songs. By listening to the songs, I felt comfortable and enjoyed. The song I like is If I let you go by Westlife".

Interview#2

#### **b. Developing English proficiency**

"I like listening to English Songs. Because it can help in developing my English Skills. I like English song is Somebody's Pleasure by Aziz Hendra".

Interview#3

"I like listening English Songs, because the songs add new vocabulary. The song I like is Beautiful in White by Shane Filan".

Interview#4

"I like English Songs, because the songs help in developing my English Skills. I like songs which genre romance, such as My Love by Westlife".

Interview#5

### **2. Reason students that English songs Improve Vocabulary.**

#### **Developing English proficiency**

"Of course, because the lyrics in English songs make me vocabulary increase and part of the song lyrics has a meaning".

Interview#1

"Of course, it is very helpful. Because it is a lot of English Vocabulary obtained".

Interview#2

"That's right, because I always write new vocabulary that I don't know in the lyrics and find out what it means. The more English songs I listen to, the more vocabulary I learn"

Interview#3

“Sure, because I always listen to English songs to increase my vocabulary. The more my vocabulary the easier it is to speak English properly”.

Interview#4

“Of course, i always listen to English songs to make me add vocabulary. Especially when I can sing such again with correct English pronunciation”

Interview#5

### 3. Benefit of Using English Songs

Developing English proficiency

“Benefit the songs is can improve my memory and understand vocabulary more effectively”.

Interview#1

“One of the benefit of Englis Songs to increase the vocabulary,knowing a meaning,pronunciation,word classes”.

Interview#2

“Of course, because English songs can help vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and others in learning English.”

Interview#3

“I think English songs can add to my vocabulary which can be learned to develop and improve my English skills.

Interview#4

“The advantage for me is that I know more about the words,pronunciation and meanings contained in the lyrics.”

Interview#5

### 4. Students like to see the lyrics of English songs when singing

Developing English proficiency

“Of course, with the help of lyrics can help me understand fault words I hear.

Interview#1

“Emmmm, I see lyrics when I don't listen to the words of an English song, and I also use lyrics to know the meaning of each word”.

Interview#2

“ I see the lyrics of an English song when the English lyrics are hard for me to understand”.

Interview#3

“Sometimes I used lyrics. When I hear the songs often and understand the words I don't need to look at the lyrics”.

Interview#4

“ I saw the lyrics of a song when I first heard the song. When I'm used to that song I don't have to use lyrics”.

Interview#5

Based on the interview results,it shows that English Songs can help develop their English,especially vocabulary. English songs can increase their vocabulary and one of the benefit English Songs to increase the vocabulary,knowing a meaning,pronunciation,word classes and improve my English skills.

## DISCUSSION



Based on the percentage above, it can be said that 88% the majority of students really like English songs, the middle percentage is 81% the majority of students strongly agree that English songs are useful for improving my English vocabulary, and the lowest percentage is found in the indicator that students always find the meaning of difficult English vocabulary with a percentage of 64% which indicates the "positive" category. Based on the highest percentage and lowest percentage, it can be concluded that students really like English songs because through English songs students can develop vocabulary, namely in knowing multi words unit contained in the lyrics. Based on the Mean results is 79,78%, it shows that students' perception of using English songs for vocabulary development is positive. It can be interpreted that English songs have a big influence on vocabulary development.

The results of the interviews show that the majority of students agree that English songs can be useful and help students in vocabulary development. This can be shown that One of the benefit of English Songs to increase the vocabulary knowing a meaning, pronunciation, word classes, and English songs can add to my vocabulary which can be learned to develop and improve my English skills There is a meaning and pronunciation. Apart from that, most of the students listen to English songs 2 times a day, namely in afternoon and night.

Based on previous research from Ance Yohana (2016), entitled Students' Perception on the Use of English Songs towards English vocabulary development. From the data analysis, it can be concluded that the majority of students agreed that English songs can develop their English vocabulary and that English songs are also useful to improve their English language skills and language elements. This study also aims to determine students' perceptions of the use of English songs for vocabulary development. The results of research conducted through questionnaires and interviews are positive. Students agree that English songs are very helpful in developing vocabulary.

Another research by Hanif Fauzan (2019) the titled Students' Perception about the Use of Songs Media in Learning English Vocabulary. According to the research findings, a high level of 79% indicates that students believed that learning English through song could help them expand their vocabulary. Additionally, the interview findings corroborated the questionnaire findings indicating the majority of respondents thought the music improved their vocabulary use. There were word classes, word use, pronunciation, meaning, spelling, and benefits of music.

Research by R.A Wilhelmina Blanca Giselba (2019) the title is Students' Perception on the Role of Popular English Songs to their Vocabulary Enrichment. The results demonstrated that students have positive opinions and responses about the contribution of well-known English songs to vocabulary development. They feel that well-known English songs are a fantastic way to increase their vocabulary and improve their comprehension of the language's pronunciation, meaning, and retention.

In learning vocabulary, the teacher must have an interesting and not boring way of teaching. One way that can be used in teaching vocabulary in class is by using English songs. Based on the results obtained, English songs are very influential in increasing vocabulary. English songs also make students not bored by listening to songs.

Based on the results of both instruments, students desperately need a new vocabulary through song. The results indicate that most students "agree" that they were helped by the song to know more about the research vocabulary means. On research questions, which is what the student's perception of the use of English songs for the development of the student's vocabulary perceptions is Positive.

## **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

As explained in the data findings and previous discussion, it can be seen that students' perception on English songs for vocabulary development is positive with percentage 79,78%. This means that by listening to music students can learn vocabulary development through English songs. The results of the interviews show that the majority of students agree that English songs can be useful and help students in vocabulary development. There is a meaning and pronunciation.

According to the information gathered and analyzed from the questionnaires and interviews, it is clear that the majority of students find that learning English songs is very beneficial for their vocabulary development. Additionally, they believe that the English songs they listen to can inspire students to become more motivated to learn new words and expand their knowledge of the language. They believe that they can learn vocabulary from listening to the lyrics of English songs. They become more enthusiastic and eager to study as a result.

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