

STUDENT'S PERCEPTION OF USING CAKE APPLICATION TO IMPROVE SPEAKING SKILL

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ABSTRACT

Some students feel difficult to master speaking skill in English, because they do not get support from their atmosphere. The environment is not an English area. So they need to practice their speaking by using media. This study aimed to determine how students felt about using the Cake application to improve their speaking skills. This study involved eight students from class XI MIPA 4 at MAN 1 Medan. The researchers employed the qualitative descriptive approach in this research. Interviews and questionnaires were used to gather data. The majority of students reported that the Cake application was highly beneficial in helping them improve their speaking skills, according to the study's findings, because those unfamiliar with the Cake program will find it simple to utilize. Then, when students use this cake application to hone their speaking abilities, they become intrigued. Most of them do not feel bored when using this application because they can learn the idioms by watching the short English film in this application. Of course, it is fun for the students. They said that by using this application, they could practice their English speaking wherever and whenever only by using the smartphone and opening the cake application. Furthermore, they will invite their friends to use the cake application because this application is suitable for students who want to practice speaking without feeling shy about meeting many people. Finally, they said they would use the cake application daily to improve their English speaking skills.

Keywords: *cake application, perception, speaking skill*

INTRODUCTION

An international language might be defined as English. Students need to develop the following four competencies. They may be heard, seen, written, and spoken. Some skills, especially speaking, may be difficult for students to learn. They are frequently reluctant to communicate more since their surroundings do not support them. It is not a language-speaking environment. The atmosphere where people speak English enhances students' speaking skills. One transforming result of language practice is increased speaking confidence, which enables people to express themselves more assertively and clearly (Richards, 2023). In order to address students' needs in

social, academic, familial, and communal contexts down the road, teachers must ensure that students possess the confidence to communicate and listen effectively.

This research is very important because it gives the solution to the students that want to improve their speaking skill but they don't get support from the environment. They can use the cake application to practice their speaking skill wherever and whenever without meeting the people again. Especially for the introverted students, they can practice their speaking without felling shy, because just by using the smartphone. And they also can get the new phrases or expression in English to use in their daily activity.

The correlation between this research and the teaching process is that using this cake application can improve students' ability to speak English. For example, the cake application has a feature that corrects the students' pronunciation. They start by keeping an ear on the discussion in the application. Next, they replicate the English utterances of the speakers' phrases or sentences (Darmawati, 2018). After that, they record their voices. Lastly, they listen to the recorded version and the speakers' original pronunciation.

After that, they will receive the adjustment from their voice recording. It is flawless, or there are still many mispronunciations. When they are fixed, they can distinguish the difference. Of course, it is significantly related to the learning and teaching processes in the classroom. If the teacher asks the students to read an English story in their book, they will read it correctly. When the teacher asks them to converse in front of the class, they will speak with their partner fluently and correctly. The reason is that the kids utilize the cake application to improve their speaking abilities.

For students, speaking is the ability that requires the most practice. For pupils to advance, speaking is a crucial ability that they must acquire (Guo & Wang, 2018). Their English will become more fluent the more practice they have. To convey their thoughts, they have to learn how to communicate effectively. Some students find it difficult to maximize their spoken English practice time. They often do not practice more daily after acquiring the language. There are things one may do on one's own to improve one's English. Using the Cake app on a mobile device is one of them.

Iversen, J., and Eierman (2014) state that another essential feature of a smartphone is its capacity to interface with other computers in various ways. The capability to record one's voice during a practice speech is one instrument that aids pupils in speaking English. Students utilize the Cake application to practice speaking. They provide a few topics for conversation. They pay attention to the speech first. The English word pronunciation of the speakers is then mimicked by them. A voice clip is then recorded. Lastly, they hear the speakers' original remarks and recordings. They are capable of identifying variations in the adjustment. The creation of mobile applications is speeding up.

As a result, mobile applications for consumers are growing in quantity, and corporate software solutions are slowly embracing the revolution. An increasing number of businesses understand that they must be mobile to succeed. Regarding their education, students stand to gain a great deal from mobile applications. Students may learn English anywhere, anytime, by using their phones. Another important factor is a mobile device's ability to communicate with other computing devices through various methods, according to Iversen and Eierman (2014). Wi-Fi and Bluetooth are two ways that a laptop may interact. Yet mobile devices are also equipped with comparable communication features;

A significant portion of the student body uses the deployed mobile application. They get several app recommendations that they might use to further their studies. Additionally, they discuss their thoughts about the application with their other students. Students' feedback on the Cake application can help other students gain excellent knowledge on how to use it. Students convey their perspectives through their responses to the content or events.

Through perception, they can interpret and provide meaning to the sensory data. One thing that affects a person's achievement is his or her viewpoint on the people in their lives (Corbin et al., 2020). This also holds for students. There is nothing noteworthy about this research. The researcher has found a solution to the issue of students finding it challenging to practice speaking English in an unsupportive environment. Moreover, the solution is to use the Cake Application.

The researcher has tried some students to use it to improve their speaking skills. As a result, it has worked. The students become interested in practicing speaking English by using this application. They said that the cake application is straightforward to use, although it is only for new people who know this application. Moreover, it is beneficial for students who want to improve their speaking skills.

The difference between this research and previous research, in previous research from (Hapipah et al., 2021), is that it is focused on some features of the Cake Application. They inquired about the student's opinions of the Cake Application's features. Meanwhile, this research focused on how the students interested in studying speaking English by using the Cake Application. What is the reason that makes the students interested in using this application to practice their speaking?

METHOD

The researchers utilized a descriptive qualitative technique. The qualitative approach is characterized by "working up" one's study materials in search of unheard voices, suggested implications, subtle features, different interpretations, and hidden meanings (Li et al., 2019). Qualitative research requires verbal expressions, and they often need to be very detailed. Language expressions, usually somewhat comprehensive, are necessary for qualitative research (Atmowardoyo, 2018). The supplied data show the conditions, and the investigator tries to interpret their relevance within a specific framework.

The class of XI MIPA 4 in MAN 1 MEDAN as the research's subjects. Eight students took part in this investigation. The researcher explained a small quantity of how to use the Cake Application. After that, the students were given opportunities by the researchers to examine the characteristics of the Cake application. They use the cake application to learn various phrases and practice speaking. After they had used the program often, the researchers handed them a questionnaire with questions about how they felt about using the Cake application to get better at speaking. Under the questionnaire, they were asked to give their perceptions about using the Cake application to improve students' speaking skills.

RESULTS

The researchers gathered data via questionnaires. Students were presented with ten statements on how they felt about using the Cake application to improve their speaking abilities. It can be seen in table 1.

Table 1: The Survey

NO	Statement	Scale	Frequency	Percentage
1	After using this cake application, I became interested in learning to speak English	5	2	25%
		4	5	62,5%
		3	1	12,5%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
2	I intend to use this cake application in learning speaking English	5	2	25%
		4	4	50%
		3	2	25%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
3	This cake application really influenced my speaking skill	5	4	50%
		4	3	37,5%
		3	1	12,5%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
4	Honestly, I would not say I like this cake application because it is boring	5	1	12,5%
		4	0	0%
		3	2	25%
		2	4	50%
		1	1	12,5%
5	By using the cake application, I can know to which level my speaking skills now	5	2	25%
		4	4	50%
		3	2	25%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
6	This cake application is very suitable for introverted students who want to learn speaking English without meeting people	5	3	37,5%
		4	5	62,5%
		3	0	0%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
7	I will try to invite my friends to use this cake application	5	2	25%
		4	4	50%
		3	2	25%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%

8	This cake application can be relied on to practice speaking skills	5	3	37,5%
		4	4	50%
		3	1	12,5%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%
9	Previously, I had used this cake application to learn speaking English	5	2	25%
		4	1	12,5%
		3	0	0%
		2	2	25%
		1	3	37,5%
10	I feel happy because I found this application for learning to speak English	5	3	37,5%
		4	4	50%
		3	1	12,5%
		2	0	0%
		1	0	0%

One of the form's initial items reads, "After using this cake application, I became interested in learning to speak English." Of the pupils who answered this, 25% highly agreed. Sixty-two percent agreed with the assertion. Not a single student opposed or strongly disagreed with it; just 12,5% of students were unsure. Based on the questionnaire results, students stated they were more engaged in studying spoken English using the Cake application. Because they only need to view the English short film on the Cake program to commit the idioms to memory.

"I intend to use this cake application to help me learn how to speak English" is the second assertion. A quarter of the pupils strongly concurred. The statement was accepted by 50% of the pupils. In contrast, just 25% of students selected uncertain. Furthermore, nobody selected strongly disagreed. It indicates that the pupils choose to use the cake application daily. Due to the many advantages of this program, students' speaking abilities may also be enhanced through listening, vocabulary, and pronunciation.

The third statement aims to ascertain whether students' use of the Cake application affects their ability to speak English. This remark was agreed with by 37,5% of students and strongly agreed by 50% of students. Next, 12,5% of students selected "undecided." Not a single kid expressed disagreement or severe disagreement with the message. Based on the questionnaire's results, students concurred that utilizing

cake applications might affect their English-speaking abilities. To become more proficient speakers, they will practice utilizing the Cake program a lot.

The fourth statement aims to find out if students become tired of using the Cake program to practice speaking. As can be seen from the table, none of the students chose to agree with the statement, and only 12.5% of them strongly agreed. Then, 25% of pupils select "undecided." Additionally, 12 percent of students selected strongly agreed with this assertion, whereas 50% of students disagreed. The questionnaire shows that students enjoy using this cake application rather than feeling bored with it.

"By using the Cake application, I can know to which level my speaking skill now is," is the fifth assertion. While 50% of students agreed with the statement, 25% strongly agreed. Next, 25% of the pupils made an unsure choice. Furthermore, nobody selected strongly disagreed. According to the questionnaire results, students concluded that utilizing the Cake application can help them determine the degree of their speaking ability. In order for them to assess their English-speaking abilities.

In order to determine whether the cake application is a good fit for shy students who wish to practice speaking English in social situations, the sixth statement was devised. 62,57% of students agreed with the statement, and 37,5% strongly agreed. Moreover, nobody made an indecisive, disputed, or strongly disagreed choice. Thus, the students decided the cake application was excellent for shy pupils. Because of the Cake application, we can practice by just opening it and recording our voice, eliminating the need to meet others again.

"I shall endeavor to encourage my friends to utilize this cake application" is the seventh claim. Given the many advantages of this program, the students are asked if they would want to invite their friends to use it as well. Of the pupils, 50% agreed with the statement, and 25% strongly agreed. 25% of pupils selected "undecided." Conversely, not a single student selected "disagree and strongly disagree." According to the questionnaire, students intended to spread the word about this program to their peers, citing its excellent value for practicing English speech.

"This cake application can be relied upon to practice speaking skills" is the eighth claim. Of the pupils, 37,5% strongly agreed. Of them, 50% agreed with the

statement. Moreover, 12,5% selected "undecided." Then, nobody selected strongly disagreed or disagreed. According to their responses to the questionnaire, students concluded that the Cake application is a reliable resource for honing speaking abilities and that its advantages are undeniable.

The ninth statement was made to find out if the students had ever utilized this cake program to enhance their speaking abilities: 25% of pupils said they strongly agreed. On the other hand, 12,5% of respondents agreed with the assertion. Nobody made an unsure decision. Furthermore, the assertion was disputed by 25% and vehemently opposed by 37,5%. According to the questionnaire, students denied that they ever used the Cake program to practice speaking despite it being their first time using it, and they were rather excited about using it.

"I feel happy because I find this application for learning to speak English," is the tenth statement. This statement aims to find out what the students think and feel about this application. 37.5% of pupils said they strongly agreed. Fifty percent of the participants agreed with the statement. 12,5% decide not to decide. Subsequently, nobody selected strongly disagreed. In actuality, they find this cake application to be rather appropriate.

To get more data from the students, the researchers designed the interview. The interview questions focused on their feelings about utilizing the Cake program to hone their speaking abilities. All eight students who participated in the interview were given the same questions. Student A states that this program benefits students who wish to enhance their speaking abilities. It only needs a few minor features, such as a lesson on how to use it. In response to the interview question, student B wrote. He claimed that the cake program is sufficient since it allows him to practice speaking English whenever, wherever, and without requiring much work.

Then, student C responded that the cake application is perfect for learning speaking skills in English. The cake application gives the correction of recording our voice when speaking English. She just gives a little evaluation of the cake application. It would be more interesting if Cake provided an animation feature for every quiz in this application. After that, student D said that the cake application is beneficial for

students to increase their pronunciation in English. Because there is a feature that gives results to every recording voice.

Then, student E said that when she first tried this cake application, she became interested in using it daily. After that, student F gave his opinion about this application. He said that the cake application is very suitable for learning to speak English and for practicing students' pronunciation. Student G said that using this application is very easy and makes the students fast in memorizing the expressions and phrases.

DISCUSSION

Accordingly, the focus of the earlier research by (Hapipah et al., 2021) was on a few elements of the Cake Application. They inquired about the students' opinions of the Cake application's features. Additionally, the students shared their opinions on several aspects and advantages of the cake application. However, the emphasis of this study was on how students who were interested in learning English utilized the Cake application. Why do the students find this application exciting and utilize it to hone their speaking skills? They concluded that the cake application is an excellent way for students to get better at speaking based on the study's findings because it is easy to use and has many features. The students are interested in using this application to improve their speaking skills. The reason is that the students can memorize the idioms and vocabulary by watching English short movies in this application.

Besides that, the students can get corrections from their voice recording, which is one of the features of the cake application. The first is to keep an eye on the discussion in the application. After that, they record their voice by saying the conversation they have listened to. Then, they will get the score and correction from their recording. Of course, it is a good feature because the students know which level their speaking skills are now and their English mistakes. Moreover, they said that if someone is learning to speak English through the cake application, it can be used wherever and whenever. Without meeting the people who make the students too shy to practice, just by bringing the smartphone and opening the cake application, they can practice their speaking easily.

CONCLUSION

Researchers concluded that most students felt that utilizing the Cake application could help them become more proficient speakers based on the study's findings. After their initial attempt, they were eager to utilize the cake program repeatedly, as this application's interface is quite simple. This program is fascinating because it allows you to learn vocabulary and idioms by viewing the English short film. It adds enjoyment to studying English. They might use the program to enhance their speech as much as possible.

They said using the cake application, they can learn to speak English wherever and whenever. Using the cake application can also improve the ability of students in learning and teaching processes in the classroom. For example, from the cake application, they can see their mistakes in speaking because there is a feature that gives the correction to the recorder. By knowing their mistakes in speaking, they will not repeat them. So, if their teacher asks them to read some text in an English book, they can read it correctly. Of course, it makes the students get better results in their classes.

This application suits introverted students who need not meet people again to practice their speaking skills. They just bring the smartphone and open the cake application, then record their voice in the application to get the result and make corrections. Furthermore, they said they would invite their friends in the class to download and use this application to improve their speaking skills.

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