

The Use of Spotify to Increase English Listening Skills

Claudius Bona

*Business English Study Program, Politeknik Ubaya, Surabaya, Indonesia
claudiusid@yahoo.com*

Keywords: Spotify, Songs, English Listening Skill, Business English, Politeknik Ubaya

Abstract: The rise of smartphone make people can bring their music everywhere and it could contains a lot of songs. The new ways to listen music emerge when freemium music-streaming based application like Spotify emerge. Spotify established in 2008 is one of the best in freemium music-streaming industries. It is one of the multimedia applications that also can be used to teach listening. This study wants to find whether the use of Spotify could develop students' English listening skill. This study involves semester 1 students of Business English study program of Politeknik Ubaya as target population, since they join listening class. The writer distributes the questionnaire to the students to study the impact of Spotify on their English listening skill. The findings reveal that the use of Spotify in English listening class is effective to develop students' listening skill. This study also finds that using Spotify regularly can help students in their English listening course as well as other English courses. It can be concluded that Spotify is very beneficial to increase students' English listening skills. Further studies could be implemented in order to find other multimedia applications that can be used to foster students' listening skills development.

1 INTRODUCTION

People used to listen music and songs through CD player and mp3 devices, such as ipod. The emerge of smartphone makes life easier. People can bring their music everywhere they want to go and it contains a lot of songs depends on their smartphone's memory. How people listen to the music changes when freemium music-streaming based application like Spotify rises. It does not need massive smartphone memory to store the songs, since the songs play directly from the internet cloud storage that makes the number of the songs simply unlimited. Surely youngsters love Spotify that established in 2008. It is becoming one of the best in freemium music-streaming industries. But how Spotify can be used as teaching and learning platform is something else.

Spotify as one of the multimedia application is definitely can be used to listen and learn activities. Therefore, the writer as one of the Politeknik Ubaya, Surabaya lecturers began to use Spotify in listening I class in the 2017/2018 curriculum. This study would like to reveal whether the use of Spotify could develop students' English listening skills or not. According to Ahmed (2015), five English listening skills are predicting content, listening for gist(find

the general meaning), detecting signpost(understand the topics), listening for details (find specific information), inferring meaning (guess the meaning),

Previous studies for similar issue are investigated thoroughly to reveal the use of multimedia, especially songs to develop English listening skill. This study uses semester 1 students of Business English study program of Politeknik Ubaya as target population, since they join listening I class. The writer distributes the questionnaire to the students to study the impact of Spotify on their listening skill development.

The findings of this report would reveal that the use of Spotify in English listening course is effective to develop students' listening skill. This preliminary study could be beneficial for Politeknik Ubaya as a feedback whether the use of multimedia application such as Spotify should always be used for learning processes by the lecturer or not. Since this is only a preliminary study, further studies could be implemented in order to find other multimedia applications that can be used to foster students' listening skills development.