



## The Effect Of Using English Song To Improve Students' Pronunciation By 7<sup>th</sup> Grade At Smp Swasta Al Washliyah 27 Medan

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### ABSTRACT

The objective of this research was to investigate the effectiveness of using English song in students' pronunciation skill. This research was conducted to the second grade students of SMP Al Washliyah 27 Medan in academic year 2020/2021. In this research, a pre-experimental design was used by the writer which two classes and the total number of students 60. Sample of this research consisted of two classes. The sample was divided into two groups, the first group is 30 students (Grade VII A) which is the experimental group and the second group is 30 students (Grade VII B) which is control group. The experimental group was taught by using English song while the control group was taught without using English song. The writer used the instrument for collecting the data was oral test. The result of the analysis showed that the t-observed (2.35), it was higher than the t-table (2.00) with the level of significant (0.05) and the degree of freedom (df) (58). In conclusion, the effectiveness of the use English song is very strong to improve the students' pronunciation skill.

### Kata Kunci

*English song, Pronunciation*

## INTRODUCTION

In human life, language has a very important role because language is a means of communication, both verbally and non-verbally. According to Keraf (1997: 1), "Language is a means of communication between community members in the form of sound symbols produced by the organ of speech". Language has specific functions that are used based on someone's needs, including as a tool to express oneself, as a tool for communication, as a tool for integration and social interaction. The use of language as a means of communication has a specific purpose, namely that we are understood by others. So in this case the listener's response is the main concern.

The ability to speak English is one of the most important skills for students. English must be mastered and taught in formal schools from the age of 6-18 years. From kindergarten, elementary, junior high school, and senior high schools, also at university have been taught English. English is one of the subjects in the National Examination (UN) at Junior High school and Senior High School. Their books are also written in English. In addition, English is also

used as the official language by many important organizations in the world such as the United Nations and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Therefore, early learning should be carried out in order to make it easier for students to master English.

The National Education System (2000), The Ministry of National Education state that :

*To determine the importance of English lessons with three objectives, including developing the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, which includes speaking, writing, reading, listening skills, growing and increasing awareness about the essence of language is the importance of English as a foreign language to become the main tool for learning and developing an understanding of the interrelationship between languages and cultures and expanding culture so that students have cross-cultural insights and can involve themselves in cultural diversity.*

Although it is focused on the four skills above, pronunciation is not taught separately from the four skills. It is difficult for Indonesian students to pronounce English words correctly. Based on observations in seven grade students in SMP Swasta Al Washliyah 27 Medan, when they are asked to pronounce the word “motorcycle” / məʊtə(r) ,saik (ə) l / they will pronounce / motorcicle /. It is because of the difference between their mother tongue and the English. The level of difficulty in learning is also determined by the level of difference between the two languages. The greater the similarity between them, the less difficult it is for students to learn a foreign language.

They often find problems in pronunciation when they speak, read, or listen to the words of English. When students pronounce a word, they will always remember and use it. Furthermore, this mispronunciation can cause misunderstandings when students communicate in English. It might be caused by some factors. Learning English is very complex because many factors determine the success or failure of students in language learning. There are two kinds of factors which affect someone in learning English: internal and external factors. Internal factors come from the learners themselves, such as motivation, interests, talents, and intelligence, while external factors come from outside of the learners, such as situations and environmental conditions, learning materials, and the ability of teachers to handle English teaching and learning programs.

Learning media are very important in learning activities. The use of interesting teaching will certainly make students more interested and excited about learning. However, so far the teaching learning used by seven grade students in SMP Swasta Al Washliyah 27 Medan in English learning activities

are very monotonous and not fun. The learning only focuses on the teacher, so students only listen to the teacher's explanation. Besides that, teachers have only emphasized writing and reading skills in the class. Students do not have enough time to learn and practice their pronunciation skills.

Therefore, teachers must have several specific ways so that their students are motivated to learn English. Learners need a fun and practical way of teaching so that in the end they can integrate themselves into English, for example singing English songs can integrate students into English. It is assumed that they can contribute many things to improve students' abilities, especially in their skill elements, such as increasing vocabulary, listening and speaking. Singing songs in English is believed to have a direct influence on their pronunciation skills. This research tries to determine the effect of songs in improving pronunciation achievement.

## RESEARCH METHOD

There were many kinds of research design in conducting a researched. In this research, the researcher focused on Quantitative research. Creswell (2003) stated that quantitative research "Employ strategies of inquiry such as experimental and surveys, and collect data on predetermined instruments that yield statistical data". This category of research design belongs to experimental research. It meant that in collecting data of the research, the researcher divided the students in to two class, they were experimental and control class. The experimental class were the class that received the treatment by using English song as media, while the control class that received the treatment without using English song. The design can be showed as in the following table :

**Table 1.**  
**Research Design**

No.	Group	Pre-test	Treatment	Post-test
1	Experimental group	X <sub>1</sub>	With English Song	X <sub>2</sub>
2	Control group	Y <sub>1</sub>	Without English Song	X <sub>2</sub>

Note :

- X<sub>1</sub> = Pre-test experimental group
- X<sub>2</sub> = Post-test experimental group
- Y<sub>1</sub> = Pre-test control group
- Y<sub>2</sub> = Post-test control group

## RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Showed that in the control group the lowest score for the pre-test is 55 and the highest score is 75. In the other hand, in the post-test the lowest score is 70 and the highest score was 85. After getting the students' scores on the pre-test and post-test of the control group, it can be seen that there are differences in students' pronunciation abilities after receiving treatment

### Data Analysis

It can be taken data on the difference in pre-test and post-test scores in both the experimental and control groups. The research got the data as following:

**Table 2.**  
**The Differences Score between Pre-test and Post-test of  
Experimental Group**

No	Initial Name	Pre-test $x_1$	Post-test $x_2$	$x_2 - x_1$ (x)	$x^2$
1	AL	65	75	10	100
2	AP	75	85	10	100
3	AU	60	75	15	225
4	AR	70	90	20	400
5	AD	75	85	10	100
6	AZ	55	85	30	900
7	BA	60	80	20	400
8	CL	65	80	15	225
9	CR	80	90	10	100
10	DI	70	90	20	400
11	DP	65	85	20	400
12	AZ	70	90	20	400
13	ES	55	75	20	400
14	FA	70	90	20	400
15	FH	65	85	20	400
16	GM	75	85	10	100
17	IB	60	80	20	400
18	KA	75	85	10	100
19	KM	80	90	20	400
20	LF	65	85	20	400
21	MA	70	90	20	400
22	OS	80	90	10	100
23	RA	65	85	20	400

24	RZ	55	75	20	400
25	SH	55	80	25	625
26	VZ	75	85	10	100
27	WK	80	90	10	100
28	WL	70	90	20	400
29	VA	65	85	20	400
30	ZA	75	90	15	225
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2.045</b>	<b>2.545</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>9.500</b>

Based on the table 4.3 the mean score are calculated as follow :

$$Mx = \sum x / N$$

$$Mx = 510/30$$

$$Mx = 17$$

So, the mean score of the experimental group was 17

Based on the table aboved, it can be seen that the total difference between the Post-test and Pre-test in the control group was 405, the total standard deviation was 0 and the square of the standard deviation was 1.107,5.

To get the value of  $\sum x^2$  in total of X is quadrate :

$$\sum x^2 = \sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{N}$$

$$\sum x^2 = 9500 - \frac{(510)^2}{30}$$

$$\sum x^2 = 9500 - \frac{(260100)}{30}$$

$$\sum x^2 = 9500 - 8670$$

$$\sum x^2 = 830$$

And to get the value of  $\sum y^2$  in total of Y is quadrate :

$$\sum y^2 = \sum y^2 - \frac{(\sum y)^2}{N}$$

$$\sum y^2 = 6575 - \frac{(405)^2}{30}$$

$$\sum y^2 = 6575 - \frac{(164025)}{30}$$

$$\sum y^2 = 6575 - 5467,5$$

$$\sum y^2 = 1.107,5$$

Based on the results of the calculations in tables 4.5 and 4.6 above, the following t-test formula is used to determine the t-value of the observations of the two groups as the basis for testing the hypothesis of this research :

$$T = \frac{Mx - My}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{\sum x^2 + \sum y^2}{Nx + Ny - 2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{Nx} + \frac{1}{Ny}\right)}}$$

Where :

Mx : The Mean value of experimental group

- My : The Mean value of control group  
 $\sum x^2$  : Deviation score of experimental group  
 $\sum y^2$  : Deviation score of control group  
 Nx : The number of sample of experimental group  
 Ny : The number of sample of control group

The calculation showed that :

- Mx : 17  
 My : 13,5  
 $\sum x^2$  : 830  
 $\sum y^2$  : 1.107,5  
 Nx : 30  
 Ny : 30

$$T = \frac{Mx - My}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{\sum x^2 + \sum y^2}{Nx + Ny - 2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{Nx} + \frac{1}{Ny}\right)}}$$

$$T = \frac{17 - 13,5}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{830 + 1.107,5}{30 + 30 - 2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{30}\right)}}$$

$$T = \frac{3,5}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{1.937,5}{58}\right) \left(\frac{60}{900}\right)}}$$

$$T = \frac{3,5}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{116.250}{52.200}\right)}}$$

$$T = \frac{3,5}{\sqrt{(2,23)}}$$

$$T = \frac{3,5}{1,49}$$

$$T = 2,35$$

Based on the calculating of the t-test above, it was found that t-test is 2,35. The researcher used the 5% (0.05) alpha level of significant as usually educational research. Determining degree of freedom (df), with formula:

$$Df = (Nx + Ny) - 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (30 + 30) - 2 \\ &= 58 \end{aligned}$$

So, in the table ( $t_t$ ) is 2.002 for 5%.

### **The Testing of Hypothesis**

Testing hypothesis should be done in order to know whether the hypothesis is accepted or rejected. The hypothesis is accepted if the t-test > t-table, but it is rejected if the t-test < t-table. In this research, from the t-calculation of score by using t-test for degree freedom (df) 58, at the level value is 2,002 in degree freedom (df) of this t-observed is later compare to table critical value at df = 58 since the value of t-observed higher than value (2,35 > 2,002).

To prove the hypothesis, the data were analyzed by using t-formula. the basic theory that the researcher used :

- The hypothesis is accepted if the t-observed > t-table
- The hypothesis is rejected if the t-observed > t-table

Thus, the alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ) was accepted.

### **Research Finding**

From the result of the control group obtained in the pre-test scores, it was found that the lowest score was 55 and the highest score was 80. The lowest for post-test was 75 and the highest was 90. The lowest score for pre-test of Control Group was 55 and the highest was 75. The lowest for post-test was 70 and the highest was 85.

After adapting the data into the t-test formula, the visible t-value was 2,35 and the t-observed is used as the basis for calculating t-criticism. The mean score of the Experimental Group was 17 and the mean for the Control Group was 13,5. At a certain degree of freedom (df), in this research df 58 ( $N_x + N_y - 2$ ). The observed results are compared with the t-observation with t-table (2.35>2.00) so that the hypothesis that has the null hypothesis has been successfully rejected. As a result, the increase in students' ability in terms of pronunciation by applying songs is getting higher.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the data analysis in chapter IV and the discussion in the previous chapter, the author would like to make a conclusion. After analyzing the results of the research, the researcher obtained data about the scores of the teaching and learning process using English songs.

The researcher concluded that there was any significant effect of applying was proved by the results of the pre-test scores before giving the treatment. And it can be seen that the results of the statistical calculations above where the

value of ( $t_o$ ) is higher than ( $t_t$ ). The researcher also found there were some difficulties in students' pronunciation by applying songs, especially in pronouncing consonants and vowels. The media of English song are very interested to be implemented to improve pronunciation skills. The researcher found that there is always improvement in the learning. It's mean that the implementation of English song to improve students' pronunciation skills can make students more actived, motivated, and interested.

From the explanation aboved, it meant that teaching learning process by using English song can improve students' ability in English pronunciation.

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