

**THE USE OF FACEBOOK AS SUPPORTING MEDIA IN  
ENGLISH LEARNING UNDERSTOOD BY ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS  
MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of Requirements For Getting a Bachelor  
Degree of Education in The English Department**

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**2019**

**APPROVAL**

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### THE USE OF FACEBOOK AS SUPPORTING MEDIA IN ENGLISH LEARNING UNDERSTOOD BY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA

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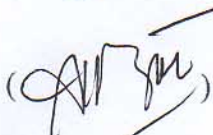

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# **THE USE OF FACEBOOK AS SUPPORTING MEDIA IN ENGLISH UNDERSTOOD BY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**

## **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan penggunaan Facebook sebagai media pendukung oleh mahasiswa jurusan Bahasa Inggris di Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian fenomenologis. Dengan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Data diperoleh dari wawancara dengan dua mahasiswa Jurusan Bahasa Inggris di semester ketujuh. Wawancara adalah pada tahun 2019. Teknik analisa data penelitian ini menggunakan Fenomenologi hermeneutik yang bertujuan menghasilkan deskripsi tekstual yang kaya tentang pengalaman fenomena yang dipilih dalam dunia kehidupan individu yang dapat terhubung dengan pengalaman kita semua secara kolektif. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian maka dapat disimpulkan bahwa Facebook sebagai media pembelajaran dapat meningkatkan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris di Jurusan Bahasa Inggris Muhammadiyah Surakarta, karena media Facebook memiliki beberapa keunggulan, yaitu media pembelajaran yang lebih bervariasi dan tidak monoton sehingga peserta didik tidak bosan dalam kegiatan belajar. Selain itu, penggunaan Facebook sebagai media pembelajaran membantu peserta didik untuk mengembangkan keterampilan menulis mereka dengan berbagai contoh yang diberikan guru kepada media. Dengan demikian dapat dikatakan bahwa Facebook sebagai media pembelajaran dalam mendukung siswa untuk meningkatkan kemampuan bahasa Inggris mereka.

**Kata Kunci:** Facebook, media pembelajaran, kemampuan bahasa Inggris

## **Abstract**

The study aims to describe the use of Facebook as a supporting media by students of English Language Department at Muhammadiyah University Surakarta. This research is phenomenological research with a qualitative descriptive approach. Data was obtained from interview with two students of the English Language Department of the seventh semester. The interview was in 2019. The research data analysis technique uses hermeneutic phenomenology which aims to produce rich textual descriptions of the experiences of selected phenomena in the life world of individuals who can be connected to our experiences collectively. Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that Facebook as a learning medium can improve English language skills in the Muhammadiyah Surakarta English Language Department, because Facebook media has several advantages, that is the learning media and more various and not monotonous so students are not bored in activities. In addition, the use of Facebook as a learning media helps students to develop their writing skills with various examples given by the teacher

to the media. Thus it can be said that Facebook as a learning media in supporting students can improve their English skills.

**Keywords:** Facebook, learning media, English language skills

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Social networking sites on the internet are of various types and shapes, but the best known and much loved by teenagers today are Facebook, Instagram and twitter. But more familiar to students is the Facebook application. Facebook, is traced from its initial history is a website created by a former Harvard student named Mark Zuckerberg in February 2004, from his room at the University's dormitory Harvard with the help of several friends, Zuckerberg made a network students through the internet to get to know each other. In 24 hours 1,200 Harvard students join and quickly network spread to other campuses. In September 2005 Zuckerberg created the high school Facebook version then expanded the Facebook network to the employees of a number of companies. Facebook's golden age starts at 26 September 2006, this social network is open to anyone who owns it valid email throughout the world (Bambang, 2009: 20).

According to the Jubilee Enterprise (2010), Indonesia is one of the Facebook users the largest with around 17.6 million users. Facebook social media users are more dominated by teenagers, students, and adults aged 13 to 45 years. But the use of social media Facebook among teens more widely used for things that are less important such as chatting, status updates and online games only. So for teenagers and students, if abused by Facebook will have a negative impact.

According to Professor J.A. Barnes (2009) Facebook is a site whose main service is social networking services. Social networking is a social structure consisting of individual or organizational elements. This network shows the way in which they relate because of similarity, sociality, ranging from those who are known everyday with friends to family. Facebook is a social networking site that allows its members to share information, opinions, and personal media (Subandi,

2011: 105). Members can communicate privately with each other via message or publicly via posts on the wall (wall) Facebook with other members.

Lintang Patria and Kristianus Yulianto (2010: 10) mentions that Facebook consists of a number of interesting features. Facebook can be used to garner support through the features available to form "groups" or raise "events", each with a homepage that displays descriptions, pictures and message boards. A group may become public by opening a membership or public with a closed or private membership. Facebook has a negative impact and positive impact. one of the positive impact of Facebook is the utilization of Facebook as a medium of learning. Facebook allows among other users in a variety of knowledge. This is an opportunity to use social media Facebook to support learning.

Essentially learning is demonstrated by behavioral changes to acquire knowledge, abilities, and skills in order to achieve goals. Learning is also a process of action through various experiences through seeing, observing, and understanding what is learned. (Khanifatul, 2014: 14). Learning takes place by interacting with others, exchanging ideas and through criticism. New technology platforms like Facebook and other social networking sites have changed the way people interact. This platform allows information to be more accessible today than ever before (Schlager et al., 2009). Northcote & Kendle (2001) states that participating in online learning activities such as discussing in online forums and finding information online can give students the opportunity to obtain more incidental, informal lots of practical online skills such as critical resource analysis, effective online communication, and filter and interpret information.

Based on the above there for Researcher want to investigate how the influence of Facebook in supporting the learning of students majoring in English at the University of Muhammadiyah Surakarta. This research only focuses on the role of Facebook social media as a supporter of students learning English majors at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

## **2. METHOD**

The type of research in this study is phenomenological research because there is no need calculation. According to Bogdan and Biklen (2009), qualitative research is descriptive, also are concerned with process rather than simply with outcomes or products. The reason for this study using a qualitative approach is because in this study the data generated is descriptive data obtained from data in the form of writing, words and documents originating from sources or informants who are researched and can be trusted.

The data obtained from interview with two students of English Department in seventh semester. The Time of interview is in the year 2019. The data that used in this research are taken from student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. And the data source are two students in seventh semester of English Department at Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta. The research data analysis technique uses hermeneutic phenomenology. The purpose of using this research methodology was to construct a comprehensive set of participants' descriptions which could portray a phenomenon and explained its relationship with individuals in that particular context.

## **3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **3.1 Findings**

#### **3.1.1 Students' Perspective about the Use of Facebook as Supporting Media in English Learning**

Media plays an important role in the language learning process (Taiwo, 2009). The way the teacher views the role of the media in classroom teaching will determine the level of media use. Through media, students can easily capture teacher explanations. The media can also create a more interesting and exciting learning environment. Without the presence of the media, the teacher's explanation is difficult to understand for some students. To bridge the teacher's explanation and the ability of students to understand it, there is a need for good learning media. One of them is the media that can be used to support the teaching and learning process is Facebook.



Facebook is a social media tool that helps people to communicate more efficiently with friends, family, and coworkers. This company develops technology that makes it easy for people to share information through social graph, digital mapping of real life human social relations. Anyone can register on Facebook from the young to the old and interact with people they know in an environment of mutual trust. (Facebook.com: 009).

In its development, social media Facebook is not only used as a means of communicating, sharing, seeking information, but can be developed as a learning tool that is interesting and fun and provides a different atmosphere because it can be accessed anytime and anywhere. The use of social media Facebook as an English learning media is able to attract students' interest in following the learning process, this is evidenced by the results of interviews as follows:

*"Yes, i'm using facebook as social media as specially to learn English language, as specially in grammar or mean like structure, like listening or speaking is really variable in facebook account, like at guruku mr. denis account is really the variable about english learning." (Subject, 1)*

Based on the results of interviews with one of the students above, it shows that the use of Facebook as a learning media in learning English is very helpful, especially structure. Then the results of other interviews that prove that Facebook as a learning media is very helpful in improving students' English language skills are as follows:

*"I think facebook really helps me like my full like English students too. To make my English level much better than before" (Subject. 1)*

Based on the results of the interview above, it shows that Facebook as a learning media is very petrifying to improve its ability to speak English better.

*"If my personal experience is often yes, there are also some of my teachers and lecturers who use Facebook social media as learning media, for example giving assignments." (Subject, 2)*

Based on the results of the interview above, it shows that Facebook is often used as a medium of learning by teachers and lecturers to give assignments. Tasks

are usually delivered through the status posted by the lecturer. So that through these posts all students can find out the assignment given.

*"More yes, of course, in my opinion, because in learning English if we do not know the meaning can be directly translated and maybe not too Translate in accordance with the Indonesian people, which means making us think English is written like this so I react if according to very exciting. "(Subject, 2)*

Based on the interview above, it is known that Facebook can help improve students' English language skills, when the students do not know how to write, so they will try to find out how to write it correctly.

*"Of course if there is such a thing, it will become more enthusiastic. We can also practice our own English in our own way because after all we have to be able to reply to that message" (Subject, 2)*

Based on the interview above it is known that Facebook can help improve students' English language skills. When someone does a conversation using English, the student will try to reply to the message by using English, so from then he will try to find out how to write and structure correctly, so that his English skills will be improved.

In the application as a Facebook learning media has other advantages, based on the results of Facebook's excess interviews as learning media are as follows:

*"Yes I use it every time, causing Facebook to be more popular than other social media, yes Facebook is really easy than other applications, because if you want to save something about grammar or structure you can save this image or a screenshot of these images and then you listen too and then listen you can repeat - repeat and repeat after you save the video "(Subject, 1)*

Based on the results of the interview above it is known that the use of Facebook as a learning media has many advantages, including the ease of use of Facebook compared to other applications, besides that through Facebook students can save pictures or videos and students can repeat them to learn.

*"Facebook is more complete than book.books only provide examples not giving us statements, but on Facebook maybe a video or image gives me an example and gives me a statement on how to use this grammar how to use this structure" (Subject, 1)*

Based on the results of the interview above it is known that Facebook has advantages over books, books only provide examples but do not give us information but on Facebook it has more complete features such as videos or images that can explain how to use this grammar how to use this structure.

*Yes, I comment or chat with my lecturer to make RPP or SILABUS or PROTA or PROMES and my lecturer, he always talks about learning media in English and all students must have a Facebook account to send or comment on their posts" (Subject, 1)*

Based on the interview above it is known that Facebook as a learning media has advantages such as a means of discussion between lecturers and students discussing subject matter. This discussion is usually done by the way students give comments on the material or assignments given by the lecturer in their posts. So that all students can do learning at any time and not adhere to the time of the lesson as when in class.

*"I think it is necessary, because in my opinion there are also many Language Clubs, so even if there is one in the group who comments and then there is something wrong, surely the others always justify it so we can learn together. "(Subject, 2)*

Based on the interview above, it is known that Facebook as a learning media has advantages, including the Group feature on Facebook through the group if someone is wrong in pronunciation or structure, the other members help justify it through comments.

*"as I said earlier, learning English through Facebook is very interesting in my opinion and has the advantage that we can be more confident with our English skills so we don't fear being afraid, because immediately we can justify. This is different when we want to express our opinion through oral with English, sometimes we don't believe that we are afraid of being wrong, but when writing on Facebook we become more confident, because we can fix it, maybe the writing is more confident " ( Subject 2)*

Based on the interview above it is known that Facebook as a learning media has advantages, which is able to make students more confident. This is because when students do a writing error when sending a reply message, immediately students can correct the correct writing according to the grammar. This is different

when students are in the classroom, students feel less confident and feel worried if they are wrong when delivering messages verbally in class. So, based on the interview above it can be concluded that Facebook is able to make students more confident.

### 3.1.2 The Difficulties of Facebook as Supporting Media in English Learning

In addition to having advantages in its application, Facebook also has several disadvantages, based on the results of the study, it is known that some of the shortcomings of Facebook as a learning media are as follows:

*"I think it's lacking because with the translator it is often wrong to choose self-study because it is just like google translation ... maybe that translates to just the default language," (Subject, 1)*

Based on the results of the interview above, it is known that Facebook as a learning media also has drawbacks, these shortcomings include translation, Facebook translation tools only provide common language, not standard language.

*"Yes, as I said earlier, sometimes the transaction is only in accordance with the internet, so the grammar is not always correct." (Subject, 2)*

Based on the results of the interview above it is known that Facebook as a learning media also has drawbacks, these deficiencies include translation. Translators on Facebook are just the same as those on the internet, so the grammar is not correct.

## 3.2 Discussion

The development of social media has experienced a very significant development from year to year, social media was initially used as a medium to facilitate communication with the public, so users understand how to adapt, socialize in cyberspace and manage networks that have been obtained in cyberspace. Social media is expected to develop technical and social skills that are urgently needed in the digital age. Being active on social media is a good thing because it can make the student always update with a variety of information.

Social media based on digital technology encourages and enables users to connect with anyone, both the closest people to strangers who have never been known at all. We cannot deny that there are a lot of impacts from the development

of digital social media applications, both positive and negative impacts that can be caused to users, which we narrow down on users here are students, moreover this social media application becomes a necessity for its users in daily life - the days of these developments arising from the existence of social media provide a change in the social activities of social media users. In addition to social media, it can also be used as a learning media to improve students' ability to improve their English skills.

The use of Facebook as a learning media that is able to support English language skills can make it easier for teachers to use varied learning models, for example, using photos, videos, and audio in learning so that the learning process is more fun and not boring or monotonous. Patria and Yulianto (2010) revealed that Facebook has features that help the learning process including; 1). Group features, 2). Updet status features and wall-to-wall comments, 3). Feature notes for groups, 4). Share link / photo / video feature, 5). Group chat feature. In addition, Facebook media also helps learners develop their writing skills and know how to write correctly by looking at the examples given by the instructor on the Facebook media.

Based on the results of the study, it is known that the use of Facebook as a learning media in learning English is very helpful especially the structure. This is indicated by the results of the interview as follows:

*"Yes, i'm using facebook as social media as specially to learn English language, as specially in gramar or mean like structure, like listening or speaking is really variable in favebook acount, like at guruku mr. denis account is really the variable about english learning."*(Subject, 1)

Based on the results of the interview above, it is known that Facebook is able to help students learn English, especially structure, both in listening and speaking. With the many features that Facebook has, students can be more motivated to learn English. Another use of Facebook in improving the ability to learn English is through Facebook groups.

*"So even if there is one in the group who comments and then there is something wrong, surely the others always justify it so we can learn together."* (Subject, 2)

Based on the results of the interview above, it shows that through the Group feature on Facebook students can improve their ability to learn English, this is done by the way someone makes a mistake when commenting using English, the other group members will justify how Grammar is right, so students know how to write the correct structure or pronunciation.

Based on the results of the explanation above, it can be concluded that Facebook as a learning media can improve the English language skills of students in the English Department of Muhammadiyah Surakarta, because Facebook media has several advantages, namely the learning model that can be used in the media is more varied and not monotonous so that learners are not bored in learning activities. In addition, the use of Facebook as a learning media helps learners to develop their writing skills with a variety of examples that the teacher gives to the media. Thus it can be said that the results of this study can support and prove that Facebook as a learning media in supporting students to improve their English skills.

The results of this study are in accordance with the research conducted by Rahmat (2018) which shows that the average value of the experimental group posttest was 9,0283 and the control group obtained an average posttest score of 7,6429 which showed the average value of the experimental group posttest higher than the control group so that it can be said that the use of Facebook as a medium for learning French is more effective than without using Facebook media. The effectiveness of the results of this study is also almost the same as a similar study entitled "the use of Facebook-based E-Learning as an IPS learning media" influencing student learning outcomes as indicated by the experimental group posttest score of 90.78 higher than the control group posttest.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on research, findings and discussion, the researcher offers the conclusion of the research on the intention of universal utterances, the implications, and the maxim violation. The conclusion of research is Facebook as a learning media can improve the ability to speak English in English Department of Muhammadiyah Surakarta, because Facebook media has several advantages, namely learning

models that can be used in the media are more varied and not monotonous so that the learners are not bored in learning activities. In addition, the use of Facebook as a learning media helps learners to develop their writing skills with a variety of examples that the teacher gives to the media. Thus it can be said that the results of this study can support and prove that Facebook as a learning media in supporting students to improve their English skills.

This research can provide more choices and recognition of information, especially about use of Facebook as Supporting Media in learning English understood. Teachers as managers of classroom learning are required to be creative in using learning media so that learning materials can be conveyed to learners, as well as Facebook learning media that have proven effective as Supporting Media in learning English understood.

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