

**THE EFFECT OF TIKTOK ENGLISH LEARNING CONTENT ON EIGHTH  
GRADE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY AT SMPN 2 PURWOASRI KEDIRI IN  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024**

**Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement the**

**Sarjana Degree of Education of English Department**

**Faculty of Teacher Training and Education**



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## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

*One small step in your endeavor is one giant leap to your success.*

### DEDICATION

- Allah SWT, who always gives strength and blessings in the process of completing this thesis.
- My beloved family ( Mrs. Sriani and Mrs. Siti) who always provide support and prayers.
- Of course, to myself who always gives me the encouragement to get to this point.
- And to the members of "Yuk Semangat Yuk" who always support and encourage me to complete this thesis.

### THE STATEMENT OF WRITING ORIGINALITY

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## **ABSTRACT**

SISKA ARDIANTI PRATIWI. 2025, THE EFFECT OF TIKTOK ENGLISH LEARNING CONTENT ON EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS' VOCABULARY AT SMPN 2 PURWOASRI KEDIRI IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024, Skripsi, English Department, The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, UNIVERSITY OF NUSANTARA PGRI KEDIRI 2025.

Keywords: Vocabulary, TikTok, Reading

This research examines the influence of English learning content on TikTok on the vocabulary of eighth-grade students at SMPN 2 Purwoasri Kediri in the 2023/2024 academic year. The background of the problem indicates that students have low English vocabulary skills and monotonous teaching methods, leading to difficulties in comprehending texts and a lack of engaging learning media. This study aims to determine students' vocabulary abilities before and after being taught using the TikTok application, as well as students' responses to its use. The contribution of this research is expected to be beneficial for students, teachers, and further research in finding appropriate media to enhance vocabulary skills. The literature review in this study discusses the definition, types, and importance of vocabulary in English language learning. Furthermore, it explains learning media, including the definition, advantages, and disadvantages of Mobile Assisted Language Learning (MALL), as well as the features of TikTok as an audio-visual medium. Previous research also shows students' positive perceptions of using TikTok videos as a medium for learning English vocabulary due to its engaging and easy-to-understand nature.

This research adopts a quantitative approach with an experimental design using pre-test and post-test. The independent variable in this study is the use of TikTok, while the dependent variable is students' vocabulary. The research was conducted at SMPN 2 Purwoasri Kediri from May to June 2024. The research population was all eighth-grade students of SMPN 2 Purwoasri in the 2023/2024 academic year, consisting of 7 classes or approximately 256 students. The research sample was selected using purposive sampling, namely class VIII-B with 36 students. The research instruments were written tests (pre-test and post-test) in the form of multiple-choice questions and jumbled letters related to daily

activity vocabulary. The pre-test was given to measure students' initial abilities before treatment, and the post-test was given to measure abilities after treatment using TikTok.

This study investigates the effect of using English learning content on TikTok on the vocabulary mastery of eighth-grade students at SMPN 2 Purwoasri in the 2023/2024 academic year. The research method involved administering a pre-test, treatment (teaching using TikTok), and post-test to 36 eighth-grade students in class VIII-B. The pre-test results showed an average score of 64.44 with 26 students failing, while the post-test showed a significant improvement with an average score of 88.75 and all students passing. Data analysis using the t-test showed a Sig. (2-tailed) value of 0.000 ( $<0.05$ ) and a t-count of 12.253 ( $> t\text{-table } 2.030$ ), indicating the rejection of  $H_0$  and acceptance of  $H_a$ . This means there is a significant difference in the average scores between the pre-test and post-test results, indicating that the use of TikTok as a learning medium has a positive effect on students' vocabulary mastery. This improvement is attributed to the exposure to audio, contextual, and visual elements of real-world English language use offered by TikTok, as well as the step-by-step instructional model that promotes deep understanding and active participation. Therefore, TikTok has proven to be an effective, accessible, and innovative tool for teaching vocabulary in the context of English as a foreign language.

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In accordance with the title of this thesis " The Effect of TikTok English Learning Content on Eighth Grade Students' Vocabulary at SMPN 2 Purwoasri Kediri in Academic Year 2023/2024". It is realized that this thesis still has many shortcomings, so criticism and suggestions from various parties are highly expected.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter is divided into seven subchapters, they are: a) background of the research, b) identification of the problem, c) limitation of the problem, d) problem formulation, e) purpose of the research, f) significance of the research, and g) definition of Key Term.

#### **A. Background of the Problem**

English is the most widely spoken language in many countries. As such, English is used in various fields, such as education, economics, and social. In Indonesia, English is still considered foreign to its people. Therefore, English is a subject that must be studied in all schools from elementary school to senior high school. It is essential to master all four basic skills-listening, speaking, reading and writing-when learning English or any other foreign language. In addition, elements such as pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar are essential for effective language learning. The following aspects of English language learning: 1) Listening, 2) Speaking, 3) Reading, 4) Writing, 5) Grammar, 6) Dictionary, and 7) Pronunciation. English proficiency will be easier to achieve if you incorporate all these elements into your learning routine. Everyone has different strengths and weaknesses, so it's important to tailor the learning method to their needs.

Vocabulary is essential for language learning, including English. Teaching and mastering vocabulary should be given great attention during the foreign language learning process because it is so important. Students can build a strong vocabulary foundation that will support them in all aspects of English language acquisition, be it reading, writing, speaking or listening, by paying attention to the elements in the learning process. Junior high school students, especially at SMPN 2 Purwoasri, have poor English skills, especially vocabulary. This can be seen from the way they complete tasks when the teacher asks them to. It shows that student face difficulties to understand the content of the text, that they have a very limited vocabulary, which can affect their ability to comprehend, and that students often make English structure errors when reading.

In addition, the classroom situation has some problems, such as 1) Students grumble when asked to complete tasks in class. They ask other friends to do the work, so the class

becomes very noisy. 2) Students pay less attention to the teacher's explanation during the learning process. 3) Students did not dare to speak freely when the writer allowed them to speak freely. 4) The learning process became boring because the teacher only asked students to practice based on the book. Teaching and learning remained uninteresting and monotonous. This causes some students not to listen to what the teacher explains. To overcome this problem, teachers can utilize TikTok learning videos.

According to Agis Dwi Prakoso, the TikTok application is an audio-visual media that can showcase the creativity and uniqueness of its users. Internet users can upload and share their videos on TikTok. Vernon says that using video technology can increase learning by fifty percent without media (Nugraha & Winiarti, 2014). Research on the use of the TikTok application for English language learning has never been conducted in Indonesia. The purpose of this study is to look at the development of English language learning media in short videos on the application and show the phenomenon of the increasing use of TikTok application as an online English language learning media in recent years.

## **B. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the above research background, several problems can be identified that affect students' reading abilities. One of the main problems is students' difficulty in understanding the meaning of texts, which can be caused by their limited vocabulary in reading. The very limited vocabulary of eighth-grade students can significantly affect their reading abilities. In addition, the lack of media for students and the absence of opportunities to learn to read can also be obstacles in improving students' reading abilities.

Ineffective teaching methods can also be a cause of students' difficulties in understanding texts. Teaching methods that do not involve students or do not explain the text thoroughly can make comprehension difficult. Unclear instructions, a lack of interactive activities, or a lack of support can cause students to have difficulty understanding the material. Students' boredom with monotonous teaching can also affect their motivation and interest in learning to read.

The main problem in students' reading activities is almost the same, namely the use of monotonous and uninteresting learning models. Students often fail to understand information from native speakers, and they often feel bored and uninterested in the material. Therefore, efforts need to be made to make reading learning more interesting and interactive. One way

to do this is by using more engaging media, such as TikTok videos, which contain many interesting videos. These videos can include information on how learning to read can improve students' reading skills and classroom conditions.

By identifying specific elements contributing to students' difficulties in understanding text meaning, educators can implement solutions and approaches aimed at addressing these issues and encouraging students to better understand and engage with written language. Therefore, efforts should be made to improve students' reading skills by using more engaging and interactive learning methods, so that students become more motivated and develop a greater interest in learning to read. As a result, students' reading skills can be enhanced, and their academic performance can improve.

### **C. Limitation of the Problem**

This study focuses on the use of TikTok content on daily vocabulary activities at SMPN 2 Purwoasri, Kediri, to improve students' vocabulary skills. Pre-test and post-test will be used in this study. The writer concentrates on how TikTok serves as a medium for students to learn in class and how it helps them improve their vocabulary.

TikTok has many diverse and interesting features, especially in video creation. In the video creation feature, everyone can record videos with various duration options, ranging from 15 seconds to 10 minutes. You can also edit the video results with various tools available in the application, such as cropping, adding music, visual effects, transitions, and text. This can be utilized to create educational video content such as vocabulary material about daily activities.

### **D. Problem Formulation**

Based on the background and the facts of the research given to class VIII students of SMPN 2 Purwoasri Kediri in the 2023/2024 academic year, the following problems can be formulated:

1. How is the students' vocabulary before and after being taught using TikTok application?
2. How are students' responses in using TikTok application for their vocabulary learning?

### **E. Purpose of Research**

There are two possible objectives of this study:

1. To find out the students' vocabulary ability before and after being taught TikTok.
2. To find out the students' responses when the TikTok application is used in teaching vocabulary.

#### **F. Significance of the research**

It is expected that the results of this study can contribute to students, teachers, and schools. The important contributions of this research are as follows:

1. For students

Students can use this research as a reference to help them find the right way or media to improve their reading skills and find new vocabulary. Thus, the media that students use to Learning to read will be more varied.

2. For teachers

This research shows that teachers can use TikTok to help students learn vocabulary better. Teachers can use TikTok as an alternative medium to help students learn.

3. Further Writers

This research is expected to be a reference for further research, so that it can find the benefits of the TikTok application not only for improving students' vocabularies, but also in other English language skills.

#### **G. Definition of Key Term**

1. Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a collection of words that a person knows. According to Nation and Newton (1997), vocabulary is a collection of words that are known and used by a person in communication. Meanwhile, reading (2000) states that vocabulary is an important aspect of language that allows a person to express their thoughts and ideas. Schmitt (2000) also defines vocabulary as a collection of words that have meaning and are used in certain contexts. In conclusion, vocabulary is an important component of language that allows one to communicate effectively and express their thoughts and ideas clearly. Thus, having a good vocabulary is essential in improving one's language skills.

## 2. TikTok

TikTok, a Chinese music video platform and social network, allows users to create short music videos. It was launched in September 2016. According to some experts, TikTok can be defined as a social media platform that allows users to create and share short videos with a maximum duration of 10 minutes. TikTok enables users to express their creativity through videos that can be edited with various features and effects. The platform has become extremely popular among teenagers and young adults and has been used for various purposes, including entertainment, education, and marketing. As a result, TikTok has become one of the most popular social media platforms in the world, with millions of active users every day.

## 3. Reading

According to experts, reading is one of the important aspects of vocabulary learning. As stated by Stephen Krashen, a linguist and education expert, “reading is one of the best ways to acquire new vocabulary and improve language skills”. When students read, they can acquire new vocabulary in a meaningful context, making it easier for them to understand and remember the words. According to David Nunan, a linguist and education expert, “reading can also help students to develop their overall language skills, including speaking, writing and listening skills”. In addition, as stated by Grabe and Stoller, “reading can help students to acquire new knowledge and information, thus improving their ability to think critically and analytically”. Thus, reading is an important component in vocabulary learning, as it can help students to acquire new vocabulary, improve language skills, and develop critical thinking skills. Therefore, teachers and educators can use reading as one of the effective vocabularies learning strategies to improve students' abilities

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