THESIS

HOW LANGUAGE LEARNERS USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO LEARN ENGLISH:A QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHOD

MARIA AFRONIA SOE

12119012

TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES FACULTY

WIDYA MANDIRA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

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MOTTO

"Never Stop Learning, Because Life Never Stop Teaching"

(Ivon Soe)

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

1. My beloved Parents, Damianus Fole and Maria Yosefa Aga (Alm.)
2. My beloved Sisters, Maria Angelina Meo
3. My beloved Brother, Yustinus Wilson Riwu
4. My beloved Almamater Widya Mandira Catholic University in Kupang

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Kupang, June 2023

ABSTRACT

This study is entitled **"How Language Learners Use Social Media to Learn English: A Qualitative Research Method"**. It aims to find out (1) What kinds of social media platforms are mostly used by EFL students in learning English; (2) How do EFL students make use of social media platforms in learning English. The subject of the study was the students of English Education Study Program of Widya Mandira Catholic University, Kupang. This study used a descriptive qualitative method, with the instruments being a questionnaire and interviews to collect data. The questionnaire was given to all students of the English education study program, but only 25 students filled out the questionnaire, which was then used as a sample in this study, while for interviews 8 people were taken from the participants who had filled out the questionnaire. The results of this study show that the types of social media that are often used by EFL students at Widya Mandira Catholic University are YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram. They use these three social media with various English learning activities, such as learning about grammar, vocabulary, and the use of accents in English, to improve the 4 basic skills. In improving English language skills, they use social media by watching movies, listening to songs, watching speech videos, and doing questions given by the learning content which are all related to English. In addition, from the results of students' answers to the questionnaire, the researcher found that students also have difficulties with the network which requires them to be able to find a place with a good network and some of them download the learning materials first. Some of them also often have difficulty understanding material from one social media source, so they use other social media that are easier for them to understand. From the results of the study, the researcher has several suggestions: (1) The researcher hopes that the results of this study can be a benchmark to help lecturers in managing the teaching and learning process with social media, after seeing students' interest in utilizing social media to learn English based on this study. (2) Students should try and use social media efficiently to learn English. (3) The researcher recommends future researchers conduct similar research by exploring other aspects of social media users to add to the theory driving the importance of social media use in English language learning today so that it can be utilized better, both for teaching staff and students.

Keywords: Learn English, Social Media, Language Learners

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini berjudul **"Bagaimana Pembelajar Bahasa Menggunakan Media Sosial untuk Belajar Bahasa Inggris: Sebuah Metode Penelitian Kualitatif".** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui (1) Platform media sosial apa saja yang paling sering digunakan oleh mahasiswa EFL dalam belajar bahasa Inggris; (2) Bagaimana mahasiswa EFL memanfaatkan platform media sosial dalam belajar bahasa Inggris. Subjek penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Katolik Widya Mandira, Kupang. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif, dengan instrumen berupa kuesioner dan wawancara untuk mengumpulkan data. Kuesioner diberikan kepada seluruh mahasiswa program studi pendidikan bahasa Inggris, namun hanya 25 mahasiswa yang mengisi kuesioner, yang kemudian digunakan sebagai sampel dalam penelitian ini, sedangkan untuk wawancara di ambil 8 orang dari partisipan yang telah mengisi kuisioner. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa jenis media sosial yang sering digunakan oleh mahasiswa EFL di Universitas Katolik Widya Mandira adalah YouTube, TikTok, dan Instagram. Mereka menggunakan ketiga media sosial tersebut dengan berbagai kegiatan belajar bahasa Inggris, seperti belajar tentang tata bahasa, kosakata, dan penggunaan aksen dalam bahasa Inggris, untuk meningkatkan 4 kemampuan dasar tersebut. Dalam meningkatkan kemampuan berbahasa Inggris, mereka menggunakan media sosial tersebut dengan menonton film, mendengarkan lagu, menonton video pidato, dan mengerjakan soal-soal yang diberikan oleh konten pembelajaran yang semuanya berhubungan dengan bahasa Inggris. Selain itu, dari hasil jawaban siswa dalam kuesioner, peneliti menemukan bahwa siswa juga mengalami kesulitan dengan jaringan yang mengharuskan mereka untuk dapat menemukan tempat dengan jaringan yang baik dan beberapa dari mereka mengunduh materi pembelajaran terlebih dahulu. Beberapa dari mereka juga sering mengalami kesulitan untuk memahami materi dari satu sumber media sosial, sehingga mereka menggunakan media sosial lain yang lebih mudah untuk mereka pahami. Dari hasil penelitian, peneliti memiliki beberapa saran: (1) Peneliti berharap hasil penelitian ini dapat menjadi tolak ukur untuk membantu dosen dalam mengelola proses belajar mengajar dengan media sosial, setelah melihat ketertarikan mahasiswa dalam memanfaatkan media sosial untuk belajar bahasa Inggris berdasarkan penelitian ini. (2) Mahasiswa harus mencoba dan menggunakan media sosial secara efisien untuk belajar bahasa Inggris. (3) Peneliti merekomendasikan peneliti selanjutnya untuk melakukan penelitian serupa dengan mengeksplorasi aspek-aspek lain dari penggunaan media sosial untuk menambah teori pendorong pentingnya penggunaan media sosial dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris saat ini agar dapat dimanfaatkan dengan lebih baik, baik bagi staf pengajar maupun mahasiswa.

Kata kunci: Belajar Bahasa Inggris, Media Sosial, Pembelajar Bahasa

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