

The Students' Perceptions of Watching Native English Speaker Video Blogs to Enhance Speaking Skills

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were: 1) to find out the student's perception of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills and 2) to find out the student's strategies in using native English speaker video blogs to enhance their speaking skills. This qualitative study applied a purposive sampling technique to get samples. The samples were 5 students from the English Language Education class 2019, Makassar State University. Nowadays, English proficiency is needed for all people including students. They are required to master all skills in the English language including speaking skills. The development of technology leads students to have many resources to learn English in order to offset in English class or even in daily communication. Therefore, technology may help students to enhance their speaking skills through E-Learning media. In this paper, the researcher tried to reveal student strategies to enhance their speaking skills through the use of native English speaker's Vlogs. The method of the research concerned the student's perception of the use of native English speaker's Vlogs and student's strategy to use it, while the data came from the student's interview, and observation. The result shows that student's perceptions on the use of native English speakers Vlogs to enhance speaking skill are good through various strategies.

Keywords: *Video Blog, Speaking Skill, Perception, Strategy.*

1. Introduction

English is an international language that everyone needs to be fluent in it. Mastering English especially in terms of speaking is making people to communicate with other people around the world easily. Speaking is one of the most important skills that we have to learn especially as English Education students. Speaking is an important way to build communication, because how we can have a conversation when we don't speak, so that is why we need to learn and improve our speaking skills as much as we can.

Speaking skills is one of the important skills in learning English. We need to communicate to

learn English, so that is why we have to be able to speak in English. Speaking is divided into two parts; it is formal and informal. Formal is when you have to speak in a polite way, for example to the people that you have to give respect, just like the teacher, or even stranger, and we also have to use formal speech when we are doing presentation or in a workplace. Meanwhile, informal speech is when you don't have to speak very polite but still not allowed to be rude, for example when you are with friends and family or when you just want to have fun.

As a student or English learner. We have to be able to speak in English, because speaking is the most important skill in english. Nowadays,

everything is easier, because of technology. These days we have the internet so we can find any information on it through many things, such as handphones and laptops. It helps us, in terms of learning and improving our speaking skills. Based on my perception and experience, I do think that the internet is a good way to learn and improve our speaking skills. One way to learn is by watching and listening to a video blog of a native speaker consistently because it helps. We can try to watch any kind of vlog that we enjoyed as long its native speaker or someone who can speak English fluently.

Watching and listening to native speakers every single day can increase students' listening skills, vocabulary and students are also familiar with the expressions used in everyday language, and finally, from this research, the researcher can find out about students' opinions by watching native speaker video blogs speaking consistently. Speaking about watching, now there are many platforms that we can use, and watch vlogs to learn and improve speaking skills. For example, Youtube, Tiktok, Facebook, and Instagram. We can watch any kind of video that we want. But most people are usually using youtube to watch vlogs.

A video blog is a video that also had a blog involved, while a text blog is just using text and images. Everyone can see a text blog or video blog as long it has published by the creator, and everyone can comment, share, and rate the content. Video blogs are more descriptive and interactive compared to any type of blogs.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Speaking

There are many definitions of speaking by different people or experts. Talking could be beneficial dialect skill (Siahaan 2008). It implies that talking may be a person ability or aptitude to create other individuals get it their words. So that we are able be able to make great communication.

Talking aptitude is an intelligently prepare of building meaning that includes creating and preparing data. Talking ability includes a communicative capacity to utilize dialect to chat and transmit messages completely different and fitting circumstances. It is connected with members and carry a message of a few short.

There are a few components that must be procured to talk English fluidly.

Talking is the utilize of dialect to communicate with others (Fulcher, 2003:23). It implies that we ought to be able to talk so that ready to communicate with other individuals clearly. Concurring to Burns and Joyce (1997) and Luoma (2004) characterize talking as an intelligently prepare of building meaning. In conclusion that talking is around creating, getting, and preparing data.

From the theories above, we can see that speaking is always related to communication. Because, speaking is the way to build communication between two or more people through listening and speaking with each other just like sharing ideas or opinions, to get information or knowledge for ourselves.

2.2. Video Blog

Video is such an exciting way, because it brings a visual audio and we can try to find the one that fits our type, so that we can enjoy and also learning something at the same time. Video is helping the students and language learner to have a better understanding in language (Harmer , 2001). The students love and prefer to watch videos like movies and documentaries to learn a language in the classroom according to Canning-Wilson (2000).

Native English speaker video blog is a content that was made by a native speaker or someone who can speak English in a video, it doesn't matter if the content is not about English for education as long as the people in it talk or speak in English, because what matter is the

students can hear and learn how the speaker speak and pronounce the words, in order to develop the students ability in speak English.

These days, there are a lot of teacher using videos to teach their students to learn a language, because video is a fun and a simple way to learn, but also effective. It is clear that short segments of video blog are more effective in the teaching learning process because the teacher can choose any part which of certain language that will be learned and practiced by the students.

2. 3. Perception

Perception is how humans take in the world, particularly through their senses. Additionally, perception is a concept, a conviction, or an impression that people have as a result of their capacity for perception (Hornby, 2006: 1079). Schmitz (2009) defined perception as the procedure for choosing, organizing, and interpreting data. People utilize perception as a method to control and interpret the results of their senses in order to give their surroundings context. People can see something in either good or negative ways. People are able to establish relationships with their surroundings through perception. Their five senses are used to communicate in this partnership. These five senses are sight, hearing, taste, and touch.

3. Research Methodology

3. 1. Research Design

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach. Gay, Airasian, & Mills (2006) claim that descriptive research, also referred to as survey research, establishes and explains how things are. This means that the subject of the investigation will be described honestly, without embellishment or reduction, and without the researcher's involvement.

3. 2. Place and Time of Research

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach. Descriptive research, often known as survey research, establishes and explains

how things are, according to Gay, Airasian, & Mills (2006). This means that the researcher will describe the subject of the investigation as it is, without fabrication or reduction, and without the researcher's involvement.

3. 3. Population and Sample

The research participants are selected via purposive sampling with criteria as follows:

- a. Got a good mark (A) in the last speaking subject (Advanced Speaking),
- b. Gender selection based on their volunteer (1 male and 4 females),
- c. English Education program,
- d. Has started watching native English speaker vlogs in their daily life.

The first subject has the initials MD (Male), the seconds subject is NA (Female), the third subject is MR (Female), the fourth subject is AH (Female), and the last subject which is the fifth subject has the initials GA (Female).

3. 4. Data Collection

This are the step taken for data collection as follows:

- a. The researcher introduced herself and informed intention.
- b. The researcher requested the respondents to participate the research.
- c. The researcher requested the respondents to be interviewed.
- d. They may withdraw at any time without pressure.
- e. They are informed that their participation is only used for education purpose, and also there was a documentation with an audio recording, and took some pictures as a proof of the research.

3. 5. Instruments of the Research

A research instrument is a device used to gather, quantify, and analyze data relevant to the study's subject. Additionally, the researcher employed two tools in this study. An interview guide and documentation were the tools. As the main tool for doing research, interviews were used. The interview includes a

number of questions that are intended to gather data in keeping with the objectives of the study. The type of interviews utilized to collect the data are semi-structured ones with open-ended questions. It implies that the researcher will ask respondents questions or make statements that they must react to in order to collect data.

3. 6. Data Analysis

Data analysis is the process of carefully analyzing the data to draw conclusions. Conclusions can be drawn with ease when the data analysis method is used properly.

Data analysis, according to Miles and Huberman (1994, p. 10), consists of three steps:

- a. Data reduction, it describes the method of focusing, simplification, abstraction, and transformation of the information contained in written-down field notes or transcriptions. The researcher might organize the data and remove any extraneous information using data reduction in order to get a final conclusion.
- b. Data display is a streamlined, structured collection of data that enables action and conclusion-making. They think that better data visualization, which includes different kinds of matrices, images, networks, and charts, is the key to valid qualitative analysis. Everything about it is intended to bring together data that has been organized in a logical and accessible way. As a result, an analyst can observe what is taking place and decide whether to get to the right conclusions or to keep doing the analysis in accordance with the recommendations made in the presentation as something that might be helpful.
- c. Conclusion drawing is the Gemini arrangement is incomplete without a conclusion. As the analyst moves forward, conclusions are also validated. While gathering data, researchers came to a quick conclusion. Naturally, it is impossible to make conclusions arbitrarily; one must go back and look at the original data. The final findings must be confirmed in order to be

genuinely accountable, as they don't only happen during the data collection process.

4. Findings

4. 1. The student's perception of watching Native English Speaker Video Blogs to enhance speaking skills

a. Students opinion of native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills

Based on the interview, all of the participants have perceived that watching native English speakers is a good way to enhance their speaking skills, even if it is just a little improvement.

According to MD that watching video blogs of native English speakers is good to improve his speaking skills, and also there are many kinds of videos that he found interesting and fun to watch. As he stated on the interview:

"In my opinion of using vlogs to improve the speaking skills is indeed good to watch about any video blogs on youtube and it's good to improve my speaking skills"

According to NA, she has perceived that video blog is such an interesting method for her to get a better speaking, because it is unique and besides that it is entertaining to watch, it can also be a learning media especially for the students, just like her. As she stated on the interview:

"So, the first word that come into my mind is interesting, eee because menggunakan video blogs ini merupakan salah satu metode atau media yang menurut saya tidak biasa atau unik, di satu sisi bisa sebagai hiburan, namun di sisi lain bisa sebagai media pembelajaran, apalagi bagi mahasiswa Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris seperti kami yang membutuhkan lebih banyak praktik dibandingkan teori, I'm sorry but secara 50:50 membutuhkan praktik dan teori"

According to MR that watching video blogs is fun and not boring, because there are so many different types of video blogs that she can spend her spare time to watch, and also, she

feels entertained by watching it. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion, improving speaking skills by using vlogs is very fun and not boring"

According to AH that native English speaker video blogs can improve her speaking skills, because it is more fun for AH, and there are many interesting video blogs on youtube that can increase her self-confidence and keep up with trends in this digital era. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion, the use of vlogs can improve our speaking skills, because in this way it is definitely more fun, not only that, we can express ourselves by viewing the content of some interesting vlogs on YouTube, it can even increase our self-confidence, and of course keep up with trends in this era digital. therefore, by using this vlog we can easily develop our speaking skills"

According to GA that speaking skill is something that everyone should be good at, and GA perceived that native English speaker video blog is a way to make it easier for people to learn. GA said that video blog is better than other method, because she can listen to native speaker, which is can improve her speaking. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion, this is a very good positive thing in this era of increasingly rapid technological development, because now speaking skill is something that everyone should develop and vlogs are a way to make it easier for people to learn"

b. The advantages of using native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills.

Based on the interview, there are some of advantages that participants have gained by using native English speakers video blogs to enhance speaking skills.

There are some advantages that MD got by watching native English speaker video blogs in his daily life, just like what he stated on the interview:

"About the advantages of using video blogs for me in speaking skills, it will be, I knew some new words, banyak mengetahui kata baru dari video blogs yang saya lihat, saya mampu mengenal dan melatih speaking skill saya to speak the words"

According to NA that there is always something good that she can get by watching video blogs consistently. As she stated on the interview:

"So in my daily lifes, me as a student, especially live in Indonesia yang Bahasa umumnya bukan Bahasa inggris, saya merasa kurang latihan untuk mempraktekkan kemampuan Bahasa inggris saya yang otomatis akan berdampak kepada kemampuan saya, yang kadang kala masih sering sekali pasif dalam percakapan Bahasa Inggris sehari-hari, maka karena tak ada teman untuk latihan, maka dengan adanya video blogs seperti ini, I can practice more by watching and trying to speak just like the native speaker in a video blog, setidaknya juga akan ada kalimat ataupun kata that can stuck in my mind when I watch video blogs consistently"

According to MR that she has agreed that video blogs have the advantages for her, especially to enhance her speaking skills. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion, the advantages of watching vlogs are that I can learn how to be fluent in English. I can imitate the way they talk easily"

According to AH that she has felt some advantages of watching video blogs by native English speaker. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion it can improve speaking fluency by viewing vlogs on youtube, and Various kinds of interesting vlogs, that make it easier to practice self-confidence by speaking"

According to GA, watching video blogs has more benefits or advantages for her speaking skills than other methods. As she stated on the interview:

"In terms of benefits, I feel that watching vlogs is still better than other methods because through vlogs we can listen to native speakers"

c. The disadvantages of using native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills.

Based on the interview, according to the participants that there are less disadvantages than the advantages of using native English speakers video blogs to enhance speaking skills.

According to MD that the disadvantages that he had was some general problems that most of the students will face while using social media. As he stated on the interview:

"Mmmmm I think the advantages of using video blogs are radiation in my eyes hehehe, and my internet connection sometimes is bad, so that's why"

According to NA that overwatching can be bad for her, so that's why it can be disadvantages. As she stated on the interview:

"I'm not really sure about this, but maybe a waste of time, karena kadang kala jika terlalu asyik menonton atau menikmati suatu tayangan, saya menjadi sering stuck di kegiatan tersebut, sampai mengabaikan hal-hal lain yang bersifat lebih urgent untuk diselesaikan pada hari itu dan yeah meskipun bermanfaat saya tidak yakin bahwa vlog bisa lebih bermanfaat dibandingkan dengan video pembelajaran"

The disadvantages of watching video blogs for MR is sometimes her lack of comprehension. As she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion, the disadvantages of watching vlogs are usually I lose a lot of words because they speak so fluently"

The disadvantages of video blogs according to AH is as she stated on the interview:

"In my opinion it uses a lot of internet data and often watch vlogs on youtube, sometimes vlogger videos very boring"

According to GA, there is not much disadvantages of watching video blogs by native English speaker, but she thinks that she

needs more practice in real life to enhance her speaking. As she stated on the interview:

"Maybe because we cannot speak directly in front of native speakers and if we want to improve our speaking skills, we have to find friends"

d. The challenges the students faced of watching native English speaker video blogs

Based on the interview, there are some challenges that the participants faced while watching native English speaker video blogs, but fortunately it can be solved by all of them, and according to MD that the challenges he often faces is the lack of his comprehension, as he stated on the interview:

"Eeeeeee the challenges while using video blogs are mmmmm I think the challenges of using video blogs are the speaker is speaking so fast when she talks about what she said and sometimes I didn't know what they are speak, I think that's all"

According to MR and AH that they had the same problem with MD, as she stated on the interview:

"The challenges are sometimes it's hard for me to catch what they're talking about because they talk really fast so I have to replay the scene to hear the way they talk again" (MR)

"I think get excited about watching vlogs, that is so interesting and I feel like it trains self-confidence, and sometimes I can't get what the vlogger means, because she speaks so fast" (AH)

According to NA that the challenges the she often faces while watching native English speaker video blogs are mostly an external challenge, as she stated on the interview:

"This more likely to be network connection and my mobile data, because vlogs duration is usually ten until twenty minutes, and it needs much data that is kinda expensive for me as a student, and also sometimes I get bored, karena biasanya kalau setiap hari disuguhkan dengan konten yang sama, saya menjadi kehilangan minat untuk menonton, sekalipun"

itu adalah jenis konten yang biasanya saya sukai, namun solusi yang saya cari untuk menyelesaikannya adalah dengan mengikuti lebih dari satu akun untuk mendapatkan tontonan yang lebih beragam”

According to GA that the challenges that she faces is more likely to be her time management, as she stated on the interview:

“The challenge maybe because I still have difficulty managing my time that when I have to watch it”

e. The improvement after watching native English speaker video blogs

Based on the interview, all of the participants have gotten an improvement in their speaking skill aspects, even it is just a little improvement. According to MD that he got more improvements in vocabulary and pronunciation, as he stated on the interview:

“First thing first My speaking skill is good before watching video blogs, and the grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, and pronunciation. My grammar is also pretty good before I started watching video blogs, and about my comprehension and pronunciation, I think these two has improved for me, and if I’m watching more and more video blogs, saya sudah bisa mengerti apa yang mereka bicarakan”

There are many improvements that NA feels she got by watching native English speaker video blogs consistently, as she stated on the interview:

“Not as good as native speaker did, but in term of fluency ada sedikit peningkatan seperti menjadi lebih percaya diri untuk mengucapkan satu atau dua kata dalam Bahasa Inggris atau kalimat, nah itu dari segi fluency, kalau dari segi grammar is not that much, because mmmm Bahasa Inggris kan apalagi yang dari vlog-vlog itu, the vlogger doesn’t really care about the grammar, it’s just about how they can give an understanding to the viewers, dan untuk vocab yeah tentu saja akan ada, apabila kita terus mendengar, maka kita tentu akan mengingat beberapa vocabulary, baik yang jarang ataupun yang sering kita dengarkan

sebelumnya, and for the comprehension and pronunciation, it also has improved, because I could be able to understand what the vlogger said in their videos, and my pronunciation is getting better as I listen and keep practicing just like the native speaker did in their video blogs”

According to MR that watching native English speaker has improved her speaking skills in some aspect, as she stated on the interview:

“In my opinion, I have improved in my speaking skills, especially in terms of vocabulary, comprehension, and pronunciation, because I have seen many video blogs, and they keep saying words that I’m not used to, that’s why I feel like I got many of new vocabulary, and I could be able to understand what native English speaker said in their video, and as I keep listen how they pronoun the words, I feel it has improved my pronunciation, but for fluency I would say it has improved, but not that much, and I still have to practice, but for grammar it hasn’t really improved, because most of video blogs that I watched is the vlogger using an informal language, so I’m not that sure about it”

According to AH that she is better than before after watching video blogs by native English speaker consistently, as she stated on the interview:

“Maybe it's better than before, because by watching English vlogs, I could know how to pronounce vocabulary in the right way and learn grammar and be able to practice fluency in speaking”

According to GA that she is better than before in speaking, but there is not much difference, as she stated on the interview:

“I think of course it is better than before, but still not very good in terms of fluency, grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, and pronunciation”

4. 2. The student’s strategy of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills

There are several strategies used by the students to enhance their speaking skills

through native English speaker video blogs. The MD said that he didn't have the exact strategy to enhance his speaking, but he always tries to turn off the subtitle after watching some video blogs to challenge himself. The finding is supported by the data from the interview:

"About the strategy, I didn't really have the specific strategy, but sometimes I just try to watch video blogs without subtitles to test my limit".

The GA also has the same strategy as MD, as she said

"My strategy is to implement at least 1 vlog every day and turn off subtitles so I can train myself more".

The NA said that she didn't have a specific strategy, but she always tries to speak or imitate the way native speaker in a video blog did to get used to the correct pronunciation, and also, she tries to get a better understanding by turn on the subtitle, as identified:

"I don't really have a specific strategy, but terkadang saya akan mengikuti atau mengulang apa yang vlogger itu katakan di dalam konten mereka untuk yeah membantu saya untuk lebih terbiasa untuk menghafal, dan melatih my pronunciation and salah satu hal yang saya sering lakukan yaitu to turn on the subtitle, because if I don't get what the speaker said, then the subtitle can help me to understand and make it clear".

While MR also has the same strategy with NA, which is to listen and try to repeat what the native speaker says, as she said on the interview:

"One of my way is to repeat the sentences I catch and listen carefully to the way they speak"

The AH has a different strategy compared to the other students. According to AH that she usually tries to speak in front of the mirror confidently just like the native speaker did in their video blogs, and AH said that sometimes she trains herself by making a video of her talking for a few minutes, as she said on the interview:

"My strategy in developing speaking is by seeing vloggers, who are so confident speaking in front of the camera, and I also feel confident too by practicing my speaking in front of the mirror or sometimes I talk by making videos for a few minutes".

5. Discussions

5. 1. The student's perception of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills

Based on the findings above, there are some parts that supported students' perceptions of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance their speaking skills, they are: student's opinion, the advantages, the disadvantages, the challenges, and the improvements of watching native English speaker video blogs.

Based on the interview, all the students have perceived native English speaker video blogs in a positive way. According to MD that watching video blogs of native English speaker is good to improve his speaking skills, and also there are many kinds of videos that he found interesting and fun to watch. MD stated that he likes to watch video blogs in the meantime, or when he is in the mood to watch something. According to NA, she has perceived that video blog is such an interesting method for her to get a better speaking, because it is unique and besides that it is entertaining to watch, it can also be a learning media especially for the students, just like her. According to MR that watching video blogs is fun and not boring, because there are so many different types of video blogs that she can spend her spare time to watch, and also, she feels entertained by watching it. According to AH that native English speaker video blogs can improves her speaking skills, because it is more fun for AH, and there are many interesting video blogs on youtube that can increase her self-confidence and keep up with trends in this digital era. According to GA that speaking skill is something that everyone should be good at, and GA perceived that native English speaker

video blog is a way to make it easier for people to learn.

There are many advantages the students got after watching native English speaker video blogs. MD said that there are many advantages he got after watching video blogs that he gets to know many new words. According to NA that she enjoyed watching someone's productive day, so it can influence her to be more active in her days. On the other hand, MR said that She can learn to be fluent in English by imitate the way the native speaker did in their video blogs. While AH said that she can try to correct her pronunciation by watching some video blogs. And for GA that video blog is better than other method, because she can listen to native speaker, which is can improves her speaking.

The disadvantages and challenges the students got after experienced watching native English speaker video blogs is not as much as the advantages that they have gotten. And it mostly an external problem that can be solved. According to MD that it is a radiation in his eyes after seeing phone screen in a long time and also lack of comprehension because the vlogger speaks fast. According to NA is that she is overwatching that makes her forget about other things and it need a lot of internet data which is hard for a student like her. According to MR and GA that sometimes they got a lack of comprehension and they don't know how to manage their time to watch it. And also, for AH is the same with NA that she needs a lot of internet data to watch a video blog.

Based on the findings above, all of the students said that after experienced watching the native English speaker video blogs, they have gotten an improvement in certain aspects of speaking skills: fluency, comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. According to MD that he got a lot of improvement in his vocabulary and pronunciation. And for NA and MR that she got a little improvement in her fluency and grammar, and she got a lot of improvements in her vocabulary, comprehension, and pronunciation. While

according to AH and GA that they have not got a lot of improvements in a certain aspect, but a little improvement of each aspect.

Another researcher, Kusumaningrum (2017), who found that using video blogging as a learning tool can help students' spoken communication skills, supports this research. This awareness is a result of the language class's tendency to have pupils who are not used to speaking English. Students that use video blogging may benefit from learning new words and the proper pronunciation. The students can select a topic based on the stuff that interests them. The pupils will then feel at ease with the exercise. Students may also use video blogging to hone their speaking skills.

5. 2. The student's strategy of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills

Based on the findings above that there are several strategies that the students used to enhance their speaking skills through the native English speaker video blogs. According to MD is that he tries to turn off the subtitle to test his limit, while NA is trying to turn on the subtitle when she can't understand what the speaker says, and NA also try to imitate the way the native speaker in a video blog did. According to MR that she had the same strategy with NA, the strategy that MR used to enhance her speaking skills by watching native English speaker video blogs is to follow the exact same way native English speaker did when they were talking in their video blogs. According to GA is that she tries to implement 1 vlog a day, and also, she tries to turn off the subtitle to train herself. Unlike others, AH said that she likes to train herself by talking in front of the mirror and making her own video blogs.

6. Conclusion

The student's perception of watching native English speaker video blogs is positive to enhance their speaking skills, because the students said that there are many advantages than its disadvantages of native English speaker video blogs. Moreover, the student's

strategies of watching native English speaker video blogs to enhance speaking skills were varied, it is to turn off and, on the subtitle, trying to imitate the way the native speaker spoke, making a video blog and speaking in the mirror to train themselves, it is based on the results of the data explained above.

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