The Correlation between Students’ Internet Activity Frequency and their Vocabulary Size at IAIN Bukittinggi

https://doi.org/10.31004/jele.v6i2.117

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ABSTRACT

In this pandemic COVID-19, students were required to use internet in all of the activities in order to limit the face to face interaction. The research aims to see the correlation between students’ internet activity frequency and their vocabulary size. The quantitative research with correlational method has 108 population that took 30% from population as sample of this research which was 33 students. Questioners and test are used to collect the data. The result showed sig values is smaller than alpha (0.000001<0.05) or r-measured was bigger than r-table (0.730>0.3440). This means that the students’ internet frequency activity correlate with their vocabulary size. Second, there was positive correlation between both variables (+0.730). Third, the magnitude of the correlation was high (between 0.71—0.90). This means the more students use internet the more they are exposed to the English language since the Internet use English in majority. The more frequent internet used, the improved vocabulary will.

Keywords: Internet Activity Frequency, Vocabulary Size

Article History:
Received 17th Juli 2021
Accepted 24th December 2021
Published 24th December 2021

INTRODUCTION

In this pandemic COVID-19, people used internet in all of the activities in order to limit the face to face interaction. In education, internet really helps teacher and student in learning process to gain the purpose of learning. In this pandemic internet was very importance in learning process, because students just stay at home and do online school at home by used internet. Government said all of people should keep social distancing and physical distancing. In social distancing and physical distancing everyone need internet to communicate with other anyone. It really enhances everyone social life.

Internet can be related to English language. According to Kouvuniemi, the Internet is a vast environment in which language is used in many ways, sometimes even in the form of its own special slang, ‘online language’. Most of the content in the Internet is in written form, and majority of it is English. It means that, English vocabulary become the most needed language to learn because almost all of the contents in the internet using English vocabulary. So, if someone wants to mastery internet learning, they also have to be good in English vocabulary.
Furthermore, Momani said that there is a strong positive correlation between students’ Internet exposure and their scores on the vocabulary. His finding assured the positive relationship between the Internet exposure frequency and vocabulary learning in EFL context. That is to say the more exposure to the Internet, the more vocabulary EFL students learn.

Vocabulary size is how people know and memorize vocabulary from reading skill. According to Weganofa and Lutviana, vocabulary size is the amount of the students’ vocabulary. As the conclusion, vocabulary size is total amount of word family that someone has. The word cook, cooks, and cooked are included in one family. It means that words that are counted in vocabulary size are the root of the word or word without morpheme.

People got information in internet. Internet was importance for every people because, in this era all of activity is using internet. Especially for students to online school, search the theory about subject their learning etc. In internet there was a lot English vocabulary. Vocabulary still becomes an important part in determining the success of learning both first and second language, because vocabulary was one of component for increase someone language skill. Internet ability is captured by someone when she or he can combine technology knowledge and information. In brief, in order to make students got material on the internet students need vocabulary. That why internet activity need vocabulary to increase students skill.

Based on the preliminary research on August in IAIN Bukittinggi, there were found some problems. First, there were some students who used internet frequently but their vocabulary was still limited. For example, they seem to use a very simple vocabulary when the researcher asked them to make conclusion based on the text that they got in internet. In other hand, there were students who have a good amount of vocabulary and they made a conclusion of text that they got in internet they can make a conclusion with variety vocabulary. Then, there were students who rarely used internet but their vocabulary was good and they can make a conclusion with variety vocabulary. There were some students who used internet frequently and their mastery vocabulary.

Second, some of students had limited vocabulary; so that the students did not understand the text. There were many words that they did not know the meaning. It was because students lazy to open their dictionary, to find word and get meaning. It made them lack in vocabulary. Students can also get vocabulary from internet because today all activity use internet. Sometime students got difficult word but they just continued reading. So vocabulary size was importance in internet for students understand text in internet.

METHOD

The researcher will use the quantitative research. The quantitative research is a kind of research that collects the data in the form of number. According to Sugiono, a research is called as quantitative because of the data of the research uses numeric and using statistic analysis. There are many researches that use quantitative; some of them are survey research, correlational research, causal-comparative research and experimental research.

The design of this research is correlational research because it has the purpose to find out correlation between internet literacy and vocabulary size. Gay states in Emzirs’ Correlational research is a type of non-experimental research where the researcher employs the data derived from preexisting variables. There is no manipulation of the variables in that type of research. Besides, a correlational research is useful in a wide variety of studies. The most useful applications of correlation are: (1) assessing relationship, where correlational research method used to assesses the relationship among two or more variables in a single group of subjects. (2) Assessing consistency,
where correlational research can be used to measure consistency (or lack thereof) in a wide variety of cases.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, researcher is going to describe the finding from the questionnaire and the test. There were 33 students of seventh semester in English education Department of IAIN Bukittinggi who answered to the questionnaire and test. The questionnaire was about the students’ internet activity frequency (X) and the test was about vocabulary size (Y). The data from the questionnaire and test were administrated through the Google form which has been converted to excel file format. The descriptive score of the students’ response toward the questionnaire and test can be viewed on the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary Size</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>2,00</td>
<td>29,00</td>
<td>13,9394</td>
<td>7,20217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Frequency Activity</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>53,01</td>
<td>110,05</td>
<td>82,7336</td>
<td>14,80262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The questionnaire used likert scale which has alternate options: always, often, sometime, seldom, and never. The likert scale was considered as the ordinal type data. However the test was interval type data. In order to be able to find out the correlation between those two variables, the questionnaire result needed to be converted into interval type data. This was done by using MSI add-ins in Microsoft excel which followed the Sarwono procedure of converting ordinal into interval. The raw result of the students’ response toward questionnaire and test could be found at the Appendices I and II.

Based on the table above, there were 33 students who responded to the questionnaire and test. For the questionnaire of internet frequency activity, The highest score was 110,05 the minimum score was 53,01, the standard deviation was 14,803, and the mean score was 82.73. For the test, the highest score was 29 points, the lowest score was 2 points, the standard deviation was 7,202, and the mean score was 13.94.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the finding of the research, there were 3 conclusions that can be taken. First, there was significant correlation between internet activities frequency and vocabulary size. This means that the students’ internet frequency activity could affect their vocabulary size. Second, there was positive correlation between both variables. In other word, the more students have activity in the internet the better their vocabulary size. Third, the magnitude of the correlation was high. This means that there was high correlation between internet frequency activities with the students’ vocabulary size. It can be concluded that Ha is accepted since there was correlation between internet frequency activity and students’ vocabulary size. This means the more students use internet the more they are exposed to the English language since the Internet use English in majority, so that the students’ vocabulary size would improve.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you for Journal of English Language and Education to publish this article.

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