

Utilizing English Song Through WhatsApp Audio to Enhance Students' Vocabulary: A Case Study of Tenth-Grade Students of SMA Institut Indonesia Semarang in the 2024/2025 Academic Year.

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to enhance students' English vocabulary mastery through English songs delivered via WhatsApp audio. The research was conducted with Class X-2 students of SMA Institut Indonesia Semarang during the 2024/2025 academic year, using a Pre-Experimental Design method in the form of a One-Group Pretest-Posttest Design. Data collection techniques included observation, pre-test, treatment, and post-test. The results showed a significant improvement in students' vocabulary mastery after being treated with the song Eye of the Tiger by Survivor. The average pre-test score was 44.84, which increased to 65.15 in the post-test. The use of songs in learning proved effective in helping students understand new vocabulary, improving their listening skills, and motivating them to learn English in an enjoyable way. This study concludes that the use of song media through WhatsApp audio can be an innovative and effective method to improve students' vocabulary mastery. Therefore, it is recommended that teachers utilize creative digital media like this to create a more engaging and relevant learning experience for students.

Keywords: *vocabulary, English songs, WhatsApp audio, listening skills.*

INTRODUCTION

English serves as a global bridge, essential for communication, career opportunities, and academic success. Vocabulary is the foundation of language learning and plays a critical role in mastering the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Listening skills, in particular, are crucial for comprehension and communication. Songs are an effective and engaging method for improving listening skills and vocabulary because they combine rhythm, melody, and language in an enjoyable way. Previous studies have shown that listening to English songs helps students subconsciously learn new vocabulary and pronunciation. However, English proficiency in Indonesia remains low due to factors such as a lack of confidence, limited study time, and challenges with vocabulary and pronunciation. The researcher chose to use English songs via WhatsApp audio to teach vocabulary because songs are engaging, relatable, and effective. Songs provide real-life language contexts, enrich vocabulary beyond what is found in textbooks, and utilize rhythm and repetition to enhance memory retention. This method makes the learning process more fun, inspiring, and interactive, while also improving pronunciation and listening comprehension. By using songs as a medium, students can experience language learning in a way that reduces boredom and increases motivation.

This research focuses on the problem of limited vocabulary mastery among students, which often hinders effective communication in English. The researcher aims to find ways to use

English songs via WhatsApp audio to teach vocabulary to tenth-grade students, identify the types of vocabulary mastered, and determine whether this method is effective for improving students' vocabulary skills.

The study is significant for teachers, students, and researchers. For teachers, it encourages the use of songs as a practical and motivating method for teaching vocabulary, making learning more enjoyable and effective. For students, it helps improve their vocabulary mastery and listening skills through song lyrics, making it easier to remember new words and understand their context. This approach also increases student interest and motivation in learning English. For researchers, the study demonstrates that songs can be an effective tool for vocabulary learning, providing evidence for their positive impact and inspiring further research into creative teaching methods.

Key terms in this study include vocabulary, which refers to a collection of words used to facilitate communication, and English songs, which serve as an engaging medium for learning vocabulary, sentence patterns, and pronunciation. WhatsApp audio was chosen because it is easy to access, uses minimal internet data, and remains underexplored in educational research. Listening, as defined in this study, is an active process of understanding spoken language and deriving meaning from it, while SMA Institut Indonesia Semarang is the selected research location due to its strong focus on quality education and its Intensive English Program.

This study aims to explore the effectiveness of using English songs via WhatsApp audio in enhancing vocabulary mastery and listening skills among tenth-grade students. It seeks to determine how this method can be applied, what types of vocabulary students master, and whether it significantly improves their vocabulary skills.

METHODOLOGY

This research employs both qualitative and quantitative methods. The qualitative approach involves data collection through observations, interviews, and analysis of student behavior and experiences. It aims to understand how students interact with English songs to improve their vocabulary. The quantitative approach uses pre-tests, treatments, and post-tests to measure vocabulary improvement, with statistical analysis to compare results.

Data Collection:

Pre-Test: Measures students' initial vocabulary knowledge.

Treatment: Involves using English songs via WhatsApp to help students learn new vocabulary.

Post-Test: Measures students' vocabulary improvement after the treatment.

Data Analysis:

Qualitative Data: Analyzed using data reduction (simplifying data), data presentation (organizing data), and conclusion drawing.

Quantitative Data: Measured using test scores and statistical analysis.

Formulas for Data Analysis:

Calculating Students' Score:

$$n = \frac{\text{Students' score}}{\text{Score max}} \times 100$$

N = final students' score

Classifying Students' Scores: A classification table is used to categorize student performance:

Classification	Score
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A (Excellent)	90 – 100
B (Good)	80 – 89
C (Fair)	70 – 79
D (Poor)	60 – 69
E (Failed)	0 – 59

(Brown: 2004)

SPSS Statistics is used for further analysis to manage and process the collected data, allowing for both descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The study demonstrates the effectiveness of using English songs via WhatsApp audio to improve students' vocabulary. Before implementing this method, students took a pre-test, scoring an average of 44.84, reflecting limited vocabulary mastery. Following the treatment, which involved listening to and learning vocabulary from the song *Eye of the Tiger*, students' post-test scores significantly improved to an average of 65.15. This indicates that the method positively impacts vocabulary acquisition.

TABLE 1. pre-test scores

Students' Code	Score	Category
X-1	45	E
X-2	35	E
X-3	60	D
X-4	35	E
X-5	45	E
X-6	45	E
X-7	45	E
X-8	40	E
X-9	40	E
X-10	40	E
X-11	65	D
X-12	50	E
X-13	60	D
X-14	50	E
X-15	40	E
X-16	40	E
X-17	45	E
X-18	45	E
X-19	40	E
X-20	50	E

X-21	40	E
X-22	65	D
X-23	40	E
X-24	40	E
X-25	45	E
X-26	45	E
X-27	40	E
X-28	35	E
X-29	50	E
X-30	35	E
X-31	50	E
X-32	35	E
Mean	44.84375	

TABLE 2. post-test scores

Students' Code	Score	Category
X-1	75	C
X-2	70	C
X-3	80	B
X-4	75	C
X-5	75	C
X-6	65	D
X-7	65	D
X-8	60	D
X-9	60	D
X-10	55	E
X-11	80	B
X-12	75	C
X-13	80	B
X-14	70	C
X-15	70	C
X-16	60	D
X-17	50	E
X-18	65	D
X-19	65	D
X-20	75	C
X-21	65	D
X-22	85	B
X-23	50	E
X-24	55	E

X-25	55	E
X-26	50	E
X-27	60	D
X-28	60	D
X-29	55	E
X-30	55	E
X-31	75	C
X-32	50	E
Mean	65.15625	

The process included song selection, independent listening via WhatsApp, vocabulary discussions, and sentence exercises, which helped students not only understand and remember new words but also apply them in meaningful contexts. The study highlights that English songs make learning enjoyable and engaging, while WhatsApp provides flexibility and accessibility, enhancing students' motivation and learning outcomes. Statistical analysis further confirms a significant correlation between pre-test and post-test results, validating the method's effectiveness. This innovative approach is practical and beneficial for both online and face-to-face learning environments.

TABLE 3. the significant different between students who are taught before and after using English song via WhatsApp audio to improve their vocabulary

		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	PRE TEST	44.8438	32	8.27787	1.46334
	POST TEST	65.1563	32	10.27716	1.81676

The data analyzed using SPSS shows the results of student assessments from the Pre-Test and Post-Test. The average Pre-Test score was 44.84, which was low because no treatment was given beforehand. After receiving treatment using English songs via WhatsApp audio, students took a Post-Test, and the average score increased to 65.15. This improvement indicates that the use of English songs via WhatsApp audio is effective in enhancing students' vocabulary skills, as evidenced by the significant increase in their test scores.

		N	Correlation	Sig.
Pair 1	PRE TEST & POST TEST	32	.635	.000

The results from the data analysis using SPSS show that the correlation between the pre-test and post-test is 0.635, which is less than 0.05. This indicates that the hypothesis is accepted, confirming a significant relationship between the pre-test and post-test results.

		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	PRE TEST - POST TEST	-20.31250	8.12578	1.43645	-23.24215	-17.38285	14.141	31	.000

The SPSS analysis results show that using English songs via WhatsApp audio effectively improves students' vocabulary. The paired sample test reveals a significant improvement, with the average pre-test score of 44.84 increasing to 65.15 in the post-test. This confirms that the hypothesis is accepted, demonstrating the effectiveness of this method in enhancing students' vocabulary skills.

This study confirms the effectiveness of using English songs via WhatsApp audio to improve students' vocabulary mastery. By sharing song audio through WhatsApp, students can access materials flexibly, making learning more convenient. Data from pre-tests and post-tests show a significant improvement in vocabulary mastery, with the average score increasing from 44.84, indicating low proficiency, to 65.15 after applying this method. The use of English songs with engaging music and simple, easy-to-understand lyrics enhances students' motivation and interest in learning, making the process enjoyable and interactive. This approach not only helps students understand and retain new vocabulary but also proves effective in both online and face-to-face learning contexts. Teachers are encouraged to incorporate audio media, such as songs, into their English teaching strategies, and leveraging platforms like WhatsApp offers a practical and engaging way to make English lessons more effective and appealing.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This study demonstrates the effectiveness of using English songs via WhatsApp audio to enhance students' vocabulary learning. The method involves selecting an appropriate song, sharing it as an audio file, and guiding students through independent listening, vocabulary identification, discussion, and pronunciation practice, culminating in group singing. This approach is shown to improve vocabulary comprehension, particularly nouns, verbs, adjectives, and phrasal verbs, while fostering understanding of expressions, grammar, and thematic vocabulary related to motivation and emotions.

The research confirms that this method is effective, with notable improvements in students' post-test results, showing enhanced vocabulary retention and motivation. It highlights the combination of music and technology as a fun, interactive learning medium that supports vocabulary acquisition in a natural context.

For Teachers: Innovate by integrating technology and creative methods like using English songs on WhatsApp to make learning engaging and relevant.

For Students: Use English songs as a tool to learn vocabulary naturally and effectively, leveraging technology for self-paced, enjoyable learning.

For Researchers: Build on this study by exploring digital platforms and non-conventional methods to enhance English teaching effectiveness.

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