

THE ROLES OF TED TALKS AND VLOG IN SPEAKING CLASS: STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVES

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Abstract

The aims of this research were to describe the students' perspectives toward the roles of TED Talks and Vlog in enhancing students' activeness in speaking class. The research method used in this research was qualitative research design in the form of case study. The instruments of data collection were documents of students' vlogs, observation, questionnaire, and interview. The participants of this research were the students of speaking class. This research had three research significances which consisted of theoretical significance, practical significance, and pedagogical significance. The theoretical significance was the research contributes to prove and added the speaking theories, whereas the practical significance was the research can be conducted by teachers, lecturers, or researchers to figure out the roles and the ways to improve students' participation in speaking class. In addition, the pedagogical significance showed that this research provided a reference of TED Talks and Vlog in enhancing students' activeness in speaking class, helped the students to be active in speaking class by following the lecturer's instruction toward the speaking activities given, and could be used as the empirical research finding toward students' activeness in speaking class.

Keywords: Speaking, Students' perspectives, Technology

I. Introduction

Having good English speaking proficiency is one of the important aspects in learning English. Speaking is one of the compulsory subjects in university level. It helps the students to express their thought and to communicate with the others. In speaking, the students have to pay attention to the intonation, diction, and pronunciation. Students need to master the stress, rhythm, and intonation of English in order to have a good interaction with their interlocutors. Furthermore, speaking is one of the most important skills among the four skills. Speaking seems to be an essential skill since the learners need to grasp how to

use the language like the speakers of the language.

Furthermore, speaking is one of the compulsory subjects that are taught in English Department at Tidar University. Besides, the students of speaking class in the English Department still have problem in delivering their ideas about certain topics. One example is the researcher's experience in teaching speaking class to the 3rd semester students, several students are reluctant to speak. It is one of big problems which have to be solved due to speaking plays a crucial role in proving the success of learning English. In improving the students' activeness in speaking class, the use of technology

can be used as the media to promote speaking skills in English for Foreign Language (EFL) classroom. The development of technology contributes to the spread of many kinds of websites, application, and social media. They help the students, the teachers, and the lecturers to support the teaching and learning process, especially in designing the speaking activities. There are many websites that can be used as the media to enhance the students' activeness. In this research, *TED Talks* and *Vlog* are the chosen websites to improve students' participation in speaking class. Furthermore, this research is guided by the research question: What are the students' perspectives toward the use of *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in speaking class?

II. Literature Review

Speaking

Speaking is the most essential skill in learning a second or foreign language. It shows that mastering speaking skill is needed since it plays an important role in applying a communicative competence. It is precedence for many learners of second or foreign language to acquire the speaking proficiency because the learners often measure their success in English based on the improvement of the learners' speaking proficiency .

Speaking is necessary for communication in the English speaking world so all teachers want to improve their students' speaking proficiency . There are many ways in improving the students' speaking skill that cover the functions of speaking. The functions of speaking are speaking as interaction, speaking as transaction,

and speaking as performance. It can be concluded that it is a must for the students to enhance their speaking skill in order to fulfill the functions of speaking.

Principles for Teaching Speaking

In teaching speaking, the teachers have to pay attention to the principles of teaching speaking. Therefore, the students are able to improve their speaking skill. states that the principles of teaching speaking are:

1. Giving intrinsic motivation,
2. Encouraging the use of authentic language,
3. Giving appropriate feedback and correction,
4. Giving students opportunities to communicate.

Students' Activeness

Since this research focuses on the students of speaking class in English Department at Tidar University, the students are characterized as adult learners. reveals that adult learners have several characteristics, such as they can share their ideas toward abstract thought, they have high expectation about learning process, they join the classroom with many experiences that allow the teachers to use many activities for them, and they know the goal of their learning.

TED Talks

Many English websites helps English learners to improve their English proficiencies. One of the website is *TED Talks*. TED is an acronym for Technology, Entertainment and Design. TED Talks, although typically fewer than 18 minutes long,

pack a punch: unique ideas presented with passion . The speakers on the TED stage are confident, powerful and persuasive. Based on the explanation in the website of *TED Talks*, it is stated that *TED Talks* is a global community which welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world that provide the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world. Referring to the previous explanation, it can be conveyed that *TED Talks* is a useful source in the form of video to be used in teaching and learning process.

Vlog

Vlog is one of the famous websites in this century. There are many functions of using Vlog, for instance people use it to share their personal experiences, to give comments or opinion about certain topics, even to be a media in supporting the teaching and learning process. According to *Educause Learning Initiative*, the description of video blog is explained as follows.

Video blog or vlog is a web blog that uses video rather than text or audio as its primary media source. Video blogging offers a richer Web experiences than text blogging because it combines movies, sound, still images, and text, increasing the information and potentially emotions that are shared with users. It is a rich media that allow authors to explore new ways of communicating. In teaching and learning process, video blogs are being incorporated into e-portfolios

and presentations. The use of video blogs for digital storytelling may be one way to encourage strong student participation in e-portfolio project.

III. Research Method

Research Design

The research design in this research is qualitative research in the form of a case study. views a case study focus on a phenomenon that is the processes, events, persons, or things of interest to the researcher, for instance the programs, curricula, roles, and events. There are four characteristics of case study research as follows.

1. The study of phenomena by focusing on specific instances.
2. An in-depth study of each case.
3. The study of a phenomenon in its natural context.
4. The study of the emic perspective of case study participants.

Subjects of the Study

The subjects of the study are the students of speaking class in English Department in Faculty of Language and Teachers' Training at Tidar University. The reason the researchers choose the participants because this research focuses on the students' activeness in speaking class. The researchers will focus on the students' performance in speaking class.

Instruments

In attempting to answer the research questions, the instruments of data collection are document of students' vlog, observation, questionnaire, and interview. This

research use four instruments of data collection as data triangulation in order to get research's validity and reliability. The document covers the students' vlogs about the topic chosen in *TED Talks*. The researchers will also conduct observation about the ways of *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in enhancing students' activeness. Furthermore, questionnaire and interview are going to be given to the participants in order to describe the roles of *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in enhancing students' activeness.

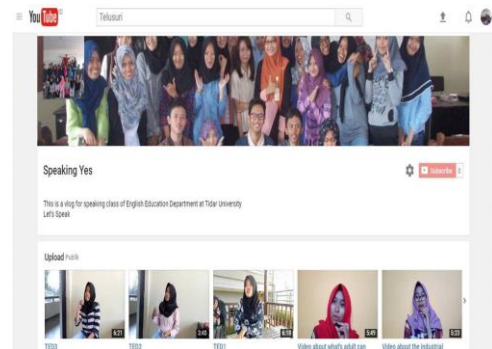
IV. Finding and Discussion

Based on the data analysis, it was found that Students' perceptions toward the use of TED TALKS and VLOG in enhancing students' activeness in Speaking Class in which it covered the advantages of using TED TALKS and VLOG and the disadvantages of using TED TALKS and VLOG. Furthermore, the following pictures showed how TED TALKS and VLOG were applied in Speaking class.

Figure 1. Students share their ideas of TED TALKS material in a class.



Figure 3. Students upload their video about TED TALK and VLOG in Speaking Course.



Based on the interview conducted, it was found that there were two perspectives about the use of TED TALKS and VLOG in which it covered the advantages and disadvantages of using TED TALKS and VLOG.

Advantages of TED TALKS and VLOG

Regarding to the roles of TED TALKS and VLOG in enhancing students' activeness in speaking class, it was found the advantages of using those media. Based on the interview, the students viewed that there were several advantages of using TED TALKS and VLOG as followed.

1. TED TALKS and VLOG could improve students' creativity.
2. TED TALKS and VLOG improved students' speaking skill.
3. TED TALKS and VLOG were interesting alternative media to be used in speaking class.
4. TED TALKS and VLOG improved students' vocabulary.

5. TED TALKS and VLOG improved students' critical thinking.
6. TED TALKS and VLOG improved students' confidence

Disadvantages of TED TALKS and VLOG

Instead of advantages, there were also disadvantages of TED TALKS and VLOG. Based on students' responses in interview, the advantages were:

1. Students needed more preparation to give their ideas about TED TALKS topic and make the VLOG.
2. Students had difficulties in understanding the topics in TED TALKS.
3. TED TALKS and VLOG was one way communication.
4. Students needed good internet connection to watch the video in TED TALKS and to upload VLOG.

V. Conclusion

The aims of this research are to describe the students' perspectives toward the roles of *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in enhancing students' activeness in speaking class. The research method used in this research is qualitative research design in the form of case study. The instruments of data collection are documents of students' vlog, observation, questionnaire, and interview. The participants of this research are the students of speaking class. This research has three research significances which consist of theoretical significance, practical

significance, and pedagogical significance. The theoretical significance is the research contributes to prove and add the speaking theories, whereas the practical significance is the research can be conducted by teachers, lecturers, or researchers to figure out the roles and the ways to improve students' participation in speaking class. In addition, the pedagogical significance shows that this research provides a reference of *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in enhancing students' activeness in speaking class, helps the students to be active in speaking class by following the lecturer's instruction toward the speaking activities given, and can be used as the empirical research finding toward students' activeness in speaking class. The finding shows that there are advantages and disadvantages of using *TED Talks* and *Vlog* in enhancing students' activeness in speaking.

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