THE EFFECTIVENESS OF USING DUOLINGO APPLICATION TOWARDS STUDENTS' MASTERY IN MAKING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AT THE SECOND GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP EL-SYIHAB BANDAR LAMPUNG AT THE FIRST SEMESTER IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2021/2022

A Thesis Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for S1-Degree

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TARBIYAH AND TEACHER TRAINING FACULTY RADEN INTAN STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY LAMPUNG 1443 H / 2022 M

ABSTRACT

THE EFFECTIVNESS OF USING DUOLINGO APPLICATION TOWARDS STUDENTS' MASTERY IN MAKING SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE AT THE SECOND GRADE STUDENTS OF SMP EL-SYIHAB BANDAR LAMPUNG AT THE FIRST SEMESTER IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

By:

Zahra Nur Shafa

The purpose of the research is to know whether there is an effectiveness of using Duoligo application towards Students' Mastery in making Simple Present. Based on the preliminary research, it showed the students' mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade of SMP El-Syihab, Bandar Lampung was still low.

In this research, the researcher used pre experimental design with the treatments whichwere held in three meetings, and 40 minutes for each meeting. The population of this research was the Second Grade of SMP Islam El-Syihab, Bandar Lampung. The researcher took sample by using cluster random sampling, the sample was VIII A as experimental class with 30 students. In collecting the data, the researcher used multiple choice questions for pre-test and post-test. The tests were multiple choice to choose the correct answers that switch to the simple present tense.

After giving post-test, the researcher analyzed the data using paired sample test formula. After doing the hypothetical towards test, it was obtained the result of (2- tailed) was less than 0.05. So, this result means there was an effective of using Duolingo application towards Students' Mastery in Making Simple Present Tense.

Keywords: Duolingo application, simple present tense, quantitative research

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ΜΟΤΤΟ

وَمِنْ ءَايَنتِهِ خَلْقُ ٱلسَّمَوَاتِ وَٱلْأَرْضِ وَٱخْتِلَفُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانِكُرْ ۚ إِنَّ في ذَالِكَ لَأَيَنتِ لِّلْعَالِمِينَ ٢

"And one of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your tongues and colors; most surely there are signs in this for the learned." (QS. AR-RUM: 22)¹



¹ Ahadi, "Qur'an Surah Ar-Rum 22 (QS 24: 22)in Arabic and English traslaion" (Online), available at: : http://www.alquranenglish.com/quran-surah-al-ahzab-70-71-qs-33-70-71 - in-arabic-and-english-translation_(Accessed on September 7th 2021)

DEDICATION

From the deep of my heart, this thesis is dedicated to everyone who cares and loves me. I would like to dedicate this thesis to:

- 1. Allah Subhanahu wata'ala who always be here and help His servant.
- Nabi Muhammad من الله عله وسلم who guide us from the darkness to the lightness.
- 3. My beloved parents, Mr. Sugeng Untoro and Mrs. Eria Kusumawati who always love me, support me and pray for my success. Thank you for all the support, May Allah bless your life.
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CURRICULUM VITAE

The name of the researcher is Zahra Nur Shafa. She was born on April 30th, 1998, in Bandar Lampung. She is the first child of Mr. Sugeng Untoro and Mrs. Eria Kusumawati. She has two sisters and one brother namely Afra Nida Karimah, Adiba Shakila Arriza, and Muhammad Azizan Maula.

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While being a college student, the researcher did social action internship in Pulau Panggung, Tanggamus for 40 days. After having social action internship, she had practical field experience in SMAN 14 Bandar Lampung for 50 days. After finishing all, the researcher started focusing in doing her thesis and she started teaching the children in a course to have experience and learn as well. Although there are many obstacles in doing it but it ran smoothly.

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This thesis entitled "The Effectiveness of Using Duolingo Application Towards Students' Mastery in Making Simple Present Tense at The Second Grade Students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at The First Semester in The Academic Year of 2021/2022" is presented to the English Education Study Program of Raden Intan State Islamic University Lampung. The primary aim of writing this thesis is to fulfill students' partial fulfillment of the requirement to obtain S1-degree.

Then, the researcher would like to says her gratitude to the following people for their ideas, time and guidance for this thesis :

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Finally, none or nothing is perfect and neither is this thesis. Any corrections and suggestion for this thesis is always open-heartedly welcome.

Bandar Lampung, August 2022 The Researcher

Zahra Nur Shafa NPM. 1611040138

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Title Confirmation

Confirmation of title to understand the title of this theis and clarify, the researcher must explain some terms related to the research topic of the thesis. This thesis titled The effectiveness of duolingo application towards students' mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at the first semester in the academic year of 2021/2022. The following are meanings for several terms found in the title of this thesis:

Effectiveness is defined as the ability to create a specific achievement or the capacity to make a required outcome. When something is accurately represented, it means it achieves the intended or expected result or leaves a lasting, powerful description. In this research the researcher wants to know the effectivenes of using Duolingo application towards students's mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at the first semester in the cademic year of 2021/2022.

In this study, researcher introduce a new learning application Duolingo, which can be used as one of the learning media. Duolingo is the world's largest online language learning platform. We use science and adaptive learning techniques to make the language learning experience more fun and effective, and we're completely free.¹ Duolingo students are supposed to be more interested in mastering their English skills. In this study, one of the most interesting learning media is Duolingo application

Students need to learn an important skill in English learning, which is the use of grammar. Larsen-Freeman stated that grammar

¹ Web, *Duolingo Guide For School*, available on https://duolingodata.s3.amazonaws.com/s3/schools/active/Duolingo_for_Schools_Guide.pdf. Accesed on March 6, 2020

is a system of meaningful structures and patterns that are governed by particular pragmatic constraints.² It means as a system of rules used to structure sentences so that sentences become clearer and those who learn can understand the meaning of a sentence. In addition to the author's ability to compose a sentence, we can see the author's sentence quality through the grammar he or she uses. A speaker must also learn grammar in order to speak formally and with good manners.

Tenses is one of the concepts covered in grammar. Tenses can be used to form sentences on their own. Tenses can be used to form sentences, with sentences composed in tenses based on the sequence or occurrence of an event. Walker states that the use of the present simple, it's used for something which is permanently true and for repeated actions.³ It stated that simple present tense is useful for describing common daily activities. A specific explanation can also be given in the simple present tense. Through use of simple present tense is largely characterised by the addition of s/es to the verb and the use of the verb's initial form. The position of simple present tense will be investigated as a subject in this study.

Moreover, researcher focused using Duolingo to learn simple present tense.. Since they had different learning media than before, the use of duolingo in a school setting to improve students' desire to learn. Students and teachers both learn a lot from their phones these days, so implementing learning through Duolingo not difficult for them. The researcher decided with the title of the thesis about The Effectiveness of Using Duolingo Application Towards Students's Mastery in Making Simple Present Tense at The Second Grade Students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at The First Semester in the Academic Year of 2021/2022.

² Cagri Tugrul Mart, *Teaching Grammar in Context: Why and How?* Vol. 3:1, 2013

³ Herlina & Maria Ramasari, Students' Ability in Producing The Sentences of Simple Present Tense at STMIK Musiwaras, Vol 1: 2, 2018

B. Background of the research

the of choice for international Nowadays, language communication is English. Reading, listening, speaking, and writing are th four skills of English, also grammar and vocabulary are the two components. In Indonesia, these abilities and elements are taught at every school level. Grammar is one of the elements, tough. For the students, it is the most challenging. Most likely, this is because students must learn a lot of regulation. Following an active sentence, the form is particularly linked with language laws. Grammatical structure is the label given to the structure of English. Grammar allows you to construct a sentence with a better form arrangement. Grammar makes it possible to produce a sentence in a better composition of form. Jeffrey and Stacy said that "The grammar of a language is the set of rules that govern its structure Grammar determines how words are arranged to form meaningful units"⁴. It means there is a need for grammar to explain a sentence.

Other than that, a simple sentence includes a subject and a predicate. The subject and the predicate are both parts of the grammar. According to Hudson a sentence with a good grammar is important because it tests you understanding of what you are understand, you cannot do it without some understanding of what you are doing, but it is important for other reasons too, it gives concentrate skill which can develop and also gives a measure of progress your grammar skill.⁵ It means that because of a sentence, the students should understand what they are doing and the structure of the sentence. If they do not know it, the students cannot produce what the students mean.

In summary grammar, it plays a vital role in composing a sentence in specific. Grammar can be defined as a collection of rules to decide how words are organized to form meaningful units. A sentence with good grammar is vital to measure writers'

⁴ Jeffrey Coqhill, Stacy Maqedanz, *English Grammar* (New York: Wiley Publishing, Inc, 2003), p. xvi

⁵ Hudson in Herlina and Maria Ramasari, *Students' Ability in Producing the* Sentences Of Simple Present Tense At STMIK Musiwaras. Vol 1: 2, 2018

perception of what they are doing. Corrections are easy to read if they are in good grammar. Besides that, the pronunciation of English using grammar order gives a better impression for the speaker.

There are a variety of ways to learn English. Nowadays, technology is the most common way to go i this digital era. Indirectly, technology makes it all convenient for people. One of the technologies people use is the application called Duolingo. According to P.Munday that duolingo is a free app created by Luis Von Ahn and Severin Hacker in November 2011. Its slogan is "Free language education for the world." According to its website, it has more than 30 million registered users. It offers several languages for English speakers as well as others for non-English speakers.⁶ Duolingo has resources and capabilities for anyone who wants to use it. It also has features that are easy to understand, particularly for beginners. Moreover, based on De Castro, Macedo and Basto stated that duolingo motivated students to practice the target language daily.⁷ It is intended that duolingo applications provide routine learning activities. Students used the Duolingo application and signed up, after which the program reminded them to retrain their lost skills within a day of missing their learning activities. Due to the value of repetitive and continuous practices, students are encouraged to fill their free time by practicing their skills on Duolingo applications, which are expected to be completed daily.

Moreover, there were some advantages of using duolingo; the first, to keep students motivated.⁸ It means Duolingo has many features and exciting colours, which would attract students' interest to learn English from Duolingo. Second, educators, parents, and students were using the apps and websites at home and in their classrooms to make the learning experience more fun

⁶ Pilar Munday, The case for using DUOLINGO as part of the language classroom experience. Vol. 19: 1, 2016

⁷ De Castro, Macedo & Basto, *Duolingo: An Experience in English Teaching.* Vol 6: 4, 2016

⁸ Roumen Vasselinov and John Grego, *Duolingo*, (New York), p.5-6, 2012

and effective. ⁹ It concluded that duolingo can be accessed via the website or we can download its application, especially for pc or smartphone. The third, duolingo usage in the formal educational environment could increase the students' vocabulary, pronunciation, and simple grammatical structures.¹⁰ The fourth, duolingo has an interesting feature of the app there is the Dumbbell button.¹¹ Through this feature of the app, they offer custom exercises that focus on their limitation and strengthen their learner capacities.

Besides that, duolingo has some disadvantages that are; the first duolingo does not provide grammar clarification.¹² It means the learner should deduce the grammar rules themselves and by trial and mistake. Even if duolingo punishes the students for the smallest errors. The second, the unnaturalness of Duolingo is sample sentences are rather clear and absurd at times.¹³ It means in the very first sessions, students can find phrases like *their cat drinks juice, we come from that man, she is not you* that just leave them puzzled. The third, the computerized voice it uses in duolingo more strange thing because students are never exposed to how a native speaker as long as they have this app as their only application.¹⁴

To learn about the students' issues, the researcher did preliminary research at SMP Islam El-Syihab Bandar Lampung and interviewed the teacher about the issues that the second-grade student faced. The teacher said that sometimes students find learning some of the teaching materials. It does not make the student understand the content. Also, students have a minimum vocabulary, making it difficult for students to make a sentence using a simple present tense. Students cannot distinguish between

⁹ Ibid,p.6

¹⁰ De Castro, Macedo & Basto, *Duolingo: An Experience in English Teaching.* Vol 6: 4, 2016

¹¹ Musa Nushi and M. Hosein Eqbali, *Duolingo: A Mobile Application to* Assist Second Language Learning. Vol 17: 1, 2016

¹² Ibid,p.94

¹³ Ibid, p.95

¹⁴ Ibid, p.95

the subject and the verb, which is why they have trouble creating a straightforwrd, simple present tense.

The researcher also asked the teacher about the methodology used by the teacher. The teacher said that she only uses a standard technique, meaning she uses a whiteboard as a tool. Then as part of this pandemic, the teacher modified the learning system by using online classes to improve teaching and learning by conveying information through the link on youtube and asking students to review of the video material that has been shared and submit it back to school. However, learning using such video is hard to improve the material itself.

Additionally, the researcher asked the teacher about the issues of her students. After that, the researcher gave the students the questionnaires. There are five questions about the simple present tense. The researcher concludes that student misses placing adverbial time in the sentences. The student challenging to add the correct verb into a sentence with simple present tense, but the student is still confusing the use of the auxiliary verb; besides that student also make a mistake in choosing a word and punctuation, which is also tricky for using the subject-verb agreement.

Table 1

The students' Grammar Mastery at SMP Islam El-Syihab Bandar Lampung in the Academic Year of 2020/2021

No.	Score	Level	Frequency		Percentage	
			VIII	VIII	VIII A	VIII B
			А	В		
1	81- 100	Very Good	2	2	6,67%	6,67%
2	71- 80	Good	10	11	33,3%	36,67%
3	61- 70	Sufficient	8	11	26,67%	36,67%

4	51- 60	Insufficient	6	3	20%	10%
5	0-50	Poor	4	3	13,3%	10%
Total		30	30	100%	100%	

Source: English teacher's document of SMP Islam El-Syihab, Bandar Lampung in the Academic Year of 2021/2022.

From the data of pre-research in Table 1, it can be found that the learners had lower scores than the criteria of the minimum standard (KKM). In SMP Islam El-Syihab Bandar Lampung the criteria of minimum standard (KKM) is 71. In addition, there are 35 students under 71 at SMP Islam El-Syihab Bandar Lampung. It shows that learners have difficulty in English in the simple present tense.

There are several previous studies, the first of which is conducted by Addal Muddin is entitled The Use of Duolingo to improve student vocabulary. Previous research has been conducted through this research to find out the impact of using Duolingo in teaching English to enhance students ' ability to master vocabulary and to learn about students ' understanding of the implementation of Duolingo in teaching English perception toward the implementation of Duolingo in teaching English.¹⁵

The second one is done by Tika Intan Pamuji entitled The Use of Duolingo Application to Increase 8th Grade Student of Kyai Hasyim Junior High School Motivation in Learning English. The result of this research is motivation is an important factor in the second language learning achievement because student motivation significantly influences students' desire to participate in the learning process.¹⁶

¹⁵ Addal Muddin, *The Use of Duolingo to Improve Student' Vocabulary,* Thesis for the Degree of Sarjana of Ar-Raniry State Islamic University Darussalam-Banda Aceh

¹⁶ Tika Intan Pamuji, *The Use of Duolingo Application to Increase* 8th Grade Student of Kyai Hasyim Junior High School Motivation in Learning English, Thesis for the Degree of Sarjana of Sunan Ampel State Islamic University.

The third is done by Ja'far Abdu Latif entitled The Implementation of Duolingo Android Application and Autonomous Learning to Enhance the Students' Writing Simple Sentences. The result of this research is implementing the Duolingo and Autonomous Learning could enhance the students' writing simple sentences.¹⁷

There are gaps between the three previous studies and this research. The first previous study used the Duolingo program to find out the impact of using Duolingo in teaching English to develop students' ability to master vocabulary and to learn about students ' understanding of the implementation of Duolingo in teaching English. The second previous research is aimed at enhancing student motivation in the learning process. The third is aimed to find out whether the implementation of Duolingo android application and autonomous learning can enhance students' writing simple sentences. Well, in this research, the researcher is using Duolingo for students' mastery in making simple present tense.

From the background of the problem above, the researcher is interested to conduct the application of making sentence entitled "The effectiveness of Duolingo application towards students's mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at the first semester in the cademic year of 2021/2022."

C. Identification and Limitation of the problem

a. Identification of the problem

Based on the description above, the researcher defined the following problem:

1. The student misses to place adverbial time in the sentences.

¹⁷ Ja'far Abdu Latief, *The Implementation of Duolingo Android Application and Autonomous Learning to Enhance Rhe Students' Writing Simple Sentences*, Thesis for the degree of Sarjana IAIN Salatiga.

- 2. The student difficult to add the correct verb into a sentence with simple present tense.
- 3. The student is still confusing the use of auxiliary "*do and does*".
- 4. The students also make a mistake in choosing a word and punctuation.
- 5. The students have difficulty using the subject verb agreement.

b. Limitation of the problem

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concentrated entirely in making simple present tense through Duolingo application. It restrained in applying verbal sentence of simple present tense. Simple present tense transformed into positive, negative, and interrogative forms by the student.

D. Formulation of the problem

Based on the limitation above, the researcher formulated the problem: How Duolingo application is effectiveness to be use in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at the first semester in the academic year of 2021/2022?

E. Purpose of the research

The purpose of the research to know of using duolingo application is effectiveness towards students' mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung at the first semester in the academic year of 2021/2022.

F. Uses of the research

The research findings are expected to be helpful in the English teaching and learning process as presented below:

1. Theoretically

To provide information to the English teacher of SMP Islam El-Syihab Bandar Lampung about the effectiveness of Duolingo application in making simple present tense. The study results are expected to inform that the Duolingo application can be used in making simple present tense.

- 2. Practically
 - a. For the teacher

Teachers can enhance their learning process by using Duolingo, so it is easy to describe the subject matter. Besides, specific goals, to complete and students for the students. By applying for Duolingo, it is hoped that the student motivated throughout the learning process, particularly in the making of simple present tense. Students were interested in learning English, particularly in making simple present tense.

b. For the school

This study supposed to be helpful for the students in learning the English lesson. The school may also apply this application to the learning process. Hopefully, this study will be beneficial in the long term, not in the short term tution. This research aims to give an exciting way to improve classroom learning practices. This additional technique is hoped to be used for the institution.

G. Relevant Research

There were several previous studies that are relevant to the study, the first of which was conducted by Muddin is entitled The Use of Duolingo to improve student vocabulary. Through this research, previous research has been conducted to determine the impact of using Duolingo in teaching English to improve students' ability to master vocabulary and to learn about students ' understanding of the implementation of Duolingo in teaching English perception toward the implementation of Duolingo in teaching English.¹⁸

Tika Intan Pramuji created the second one, titled The Use of Duolingo Application to Increase 8th Grade Student of Kyai Hasyim Junior High School Motivation in Learning English. According to the findings of this study, motivation is an important factor in the second language learning achievement because student motivation significantly influences students' desire to participate in the learning process.¹⁹

The third study is titled The Implementation of Duolingo Android Application and Autonomous Learning to Enhance the Students' Writing Simple Sentences by Ja'far Abdu Latif. Which according to findings of this study, implementing the Duolingo and Autonomous Learning could enhance the students' writing simple sentences.²⁰

H. Systematic of Writing

This research's systematic writing wil organized into three chapters that are linked. The following was the structure of the writing:

Chapter I : This chapter was an introduction that contains title confirmation, background of the problem, identification and limitation of problem, formulation of the problem, purpose of problem, uses of the research, relevant studies, and systematic of writing.

¹⁸ Addal Muddin, *The Use of Duolingo to Improve Student' Vocabulary*, Thesis for the Degree of Sarjana of Ar-Raniry State Islamic University Darussalam-Banda Aceh

¹⁹ Tika Intan Pamuji, *The Use of Duolingo Application to Increase* 8th Grade Student of Kyai Hasyim Junior High School Motivation in Learning English, Thesis for the Degree of Sarjana of Sunan Ampel State Islamic University.

²⁰ Ja'far Abdu Latief, *The Implementation of Duolingo Android Application and Autonomous Learning to Enhance Rhe Students' Writing Simple Sentences,* Thesis for the degree of Sarjana IAIN Salatiga.

Chapter I : This chapter was review of literature that contains theory about writing, grammar, simple present tense, and duolingo and hypothesis of the research.

Chapter III : This chapter was research methodology that contains of time and place of research, research design, population, sample and tehcnique collecting of the data, the operational definition of variabel, research instrumen, validity test and realibility data, data analysis, and hypothesis test to reveal how the data results interpreted.



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

In the previous chapter, the researcher analyzed the data statistically. Based on the statistical analysis, the researcher concluded that there is an effectiveness of using Duolingo application students' mastery in making simple present tense at the second grade students of SMP El-Syihab at the first semester inn the academic year of 2021/2022.

There is a significant of effectiveness using Duolingo application towards students' mastery in making simple present tense. It can be proved of the data result calculation in the previous chapter where null hypothesis (H_0) was rejected and alternative hypothesis (H_a) is accepted.

Duolingo application Instagram can give a positive influence towards students' mastery in making simple present tense. It can be clearly seen from the gain of students' score before treatment and after treatment. By applying Duolingo application students can increase their mastery to making simple present tense. Therefore, Duolingo application in teaching and learning English can a good way and madia especially in making simple present tense.

B. Suggestion

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher aims some suggestions as follow:

1. Suggestion for the Students

- a. Students should pay close attention to the teacher and attend or join the class on time so that they do not miss any of the knowledge that the teacher has to offer.
- b. Students should have the courage to ask the teacher if there are any materials that they are unfamiliar with.

c. Students should submit their assignments to the teacher on time or within the time limit set by the teacher.

2. Suggestion for the Teachers

- a. According to the research, Duolingo can help students improve their ability to make simple presentations. It means that the teacher can use media into the grammar teaching and learning process.
- b. The teacher should encourage students to participate more actively in online learning by allowing them to practice a variety of skills.
- c. The teacher must prepare well for the teaching and learning process in the classroom in order to avoid the problem of students who do not understanding the materials or the instructions that they must follow at the occasion.

d. The teacher was able to better manage the students' time.

3. Suggestion for the other Researcher

- a. The researcher used Duolingo to help students improve their ability to make simple present tense sentences. As a result, the next researcher is advised to utilize Duolingo for English learning in any tenses.
- b. At SMP El-Syihab Bandar Lampung, the researcher used the Duolingo application to help students improve their mastery of making simple present tense. Other researchers can do this material on a different grade level, which is similar to previous research that was done on a different grade level.

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