

Student Perceptions On The Effectiveness Of Using Tophonetics As A Tool For Phonetic Transcriptions

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***Abstract.** The goal of this study is to determine the effectiveness of IPA, or phonetic transcriptions, in Tophonetics application based on phonetic transcriptions. Descriptive qualitative research methodologies are employed. Seven students were used as the sample in this study to examine phonetic transcriptions using phonetic tools and gauge participants' perceptions. In this study, the author employs interviews as a tool to gather data. This study's conclusion is that students use this tophonetic application to look up phonetic transcriptions. According to the study's findings, students can readily complete IPA, or phonetic transcriptions in English, using the Tophonetics application rather than utilizing an open dictionary. They can also more easily learn how to utilize the program, which will help them pronounce words more clearly.*

***Keywords :** IPA, Tophonetics application, phonetic transcriptions.*

Abstrak. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui keefektifan IPA, atau transkripsi fonetik, dalam aplikasi Tofonetik berdasarkan transkripsi fonetik. Metodologi penelitian kualitatif deskriptif digunakan. Tujuh siswa digunakan sebagai sampel dalam penelitian ini untuk memeriksa transkripsi fonetik menggunakan alat fonetik dan mengukur persepsi peserta. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan wawancara sebagai alat untuk mengumpulkan data. Kesimpulan penelitian ini adalah bahwa siswa menggunakan aplikasi tofonetik ini untuk mencari transkripsi fonetik. Menurut temuan penelitian, siswa dapat dengan mudah menyelesaikan IPA, atau transkripsi fonetik dalam bahasa Inggris, menggunakan aplikasi Tophonetics daripada menggunakan kamus terbuka. Mereka juga dapat lebih mudah mempelajari cara menggunakan program ini, yang akan membantu mereka melafalkan kata dengan lebih jelas.

Kata kunci : IPA, aplikasi tofonetik, transkripsi fonetik.

INTRODUCTION

Phonology is the observation of how language sounds are arranged and structured . Phonology works with each time-honored and language-unique concepts, like maximum other grammar-related fields. All human spoken or written languages use an aggregate of consonants and vowels to create phrases, and all spoken or written languages divide those sounds into units referred to as syllables. Extra typically, syllables are divided into larger groupings called phonemes. Readers will notice hedging even in those assertions. However, that is a trendy detail of phonology. Then again, one-of-a-kind languages hire various sounds and choose numerous syllable systems. One of the maximum complicated syllables in any language is discovered in the word "electricity" in English. Different languages, like Hawai'ian, only permitsyllables that have one consonant and one vowel. More particularly, articulatory phonetics pinpoint precisely which speech muscle mass and organs are responsible for growing the numerous sounds of the sector's languages. Acoustic and auditory phonetics specializes in the physics of speech as it travels via the air within the shape of sound waves and the effect of these waves on the listener's ears and mind. Those sounds are then communicated from the speaker to the listener. As an end result, phonetics is intently associated with anatomy, physiology, physics, and neurology. College students can pronounce English phrases in several methods. One of the simple techniques for students to use so as to find phonetic letters in English is this Tophonetics software, whilst utilizing a dictionary to find words is pretty time-ingesting and complex. Students majoring in English language and literature have to be capable of understanding and making use of English in order to participate in everyday conversation. This Tophonetics software maybe downloaded from the Play Store on a mobile tool or utilized in a browser on a cell tool or a PC laptop. As a result, English phonology discusses the way to pronounce English, which includes a way to pronounce the alphabet's letters with the use of the IPA (*International Phonetics Alphabet*) (Sistia N. Putri, 2018 : 71 - 75).

Additionally, English phonology teaches students about intonation, stress (emphasis), and pronunciation techniques. A way to pronounce English phrases using Tophonetics is the problem. Compared to advanced times, students can now acquire English more quickly. Because formerly, college students had to hunt up phonetics in dictionaries or different phonetics-associated substances. The internet now offers tools for phonetics to get admission to, making it quick and easy to study the phonetic transcription without beginning a dictionary.

All of us getting to know English who desires to know the way to pronounce phrases effectively can select the Tophonetics app from their net browser or mobile device's play store (F. Yusuf, 2019 : 1-10). The usage of this software is less complicated than using a dictionary due to the fact all you need to do to locate phonetic transcriptions is input the text, pick an option from the menu, and click the show transcription button. The appendix consists of this application. To save you pronunciation problems delivered via college students' mindsets that simplest depend on fashionable spelling, phonetic transcription is needed. Phonetic transcripts are used to offer language-inexperienced persons precise, unambiguous records, inclusive of the sounds that should pass in which in a phrase or phrase and in what order. Several factors, inclusive of the phonetic context and the language or dialect being written, have an effect on a letter's importance, which varies broadly.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The term IPA is short for *International Phonetic Alphabet*. It specifies a typical phonetic symbol for each English alphabet. Latin symbols are typically used to write IPA symbols. For the transcription of English and many other languages, IPA is frequently used. An easy exercise for teaching and mastering pronunciation is transcription. Only the sound symbols from the spoken language they hear or from standard English orthography are required for students to write. The sound will be identified during transcription by a unique symbol. Because IPA is a common tool for phonetic transcription, this exercise demands that both teachers and students are familiar with it. In the application of phonetics, symbols are used. The IPA is a standard for sound representation of each English alphabet written using Latin symbols, according to Hanumanthappa in Rizka (2014 : 36).

Popular sound representation for spoken language is defined by the IPA. IPA is regarded as a linguistic norm. However, there is also the American phonetic alphabet, as it is very challenging to enter IPA symbols on a standard keyboard. The statement that best captures the spoken language in English is "*the written word*". A subfield of linguistics known as phonetics examines how sounds in language differ from one another in terms of meaning (Marsono in Rahmawati, 2018 : 8). IPA-based phonetics is the best approach to teach because some English sounds and IPA symbols are comparable. The trend of globalization has improved English's status as a common language. More than 350 million individuals worldwide use English as their first language, and 1000 – 1500 million foreign speakers utilize it daily for communication (Katamba, cited in Por & Fong, 2011 : 167).

Knowing how to pronounce words correctly will make kids and teachers more engaged. The IPA can be difficult at first, but it will help you pronounce symbols more clearly (Najamudin, 2017 : 228). One of the earliest and most widely used methods is phonetic transcription using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), according to Uddin, A. & Uddin, S. (2021 : 64).

The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), which is used to represent spoken language sounds in written form, is closely related to phonetic transcription. It displays the pronunciation of the words using standard English spelling. Transcriptional phonetics, in contrast to spelling, does not convey linguistic-semantic meaning. However, it demonstrates that the symbol categories used in pronunciation analysis include aspirated alveolar plosives, close-mid front closing diphthongs, lax, etc. Many teachers, according to Riska & Kawakib (2020 : 464), overlook pronunciation and continue to use some words that sound odd. However, teachers must appropriately explain scientific symbols in the class's vernacular and use dictionaries to help pupils learn how to pronounce new words. Oral and written communication are also possible (Mayasari in Kamhar 2021 : 65).

Additionally, each language has its own distinctive phonetic symbol, which is made up of a collection of vowels and consonants that have been organized according to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). Phonetic symbols help students visualize how words should sound in English so they can recognize the different English sounds. As per Rao (2018: 4).

RESEARCH METHOD

A descriptive qualitative approach was adopted in this study. According to descriptive research is conducted to determine the value of one or more variables without making comparison and linking with other variables. According to Indriantoro and Supono (2012 : 26) defines descriptive research as a research on problems in the form of current facts from a popularization. For a qualitative approach explained by arikunto. According to Moleong (2017: 6) qualitative research is research that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by research subjects such as behavior, perception, motivation, action and others holistically and by means of descriptions in the form of words and language, in a special natural context by utilizing various methods natural. Qualitative research according to Hendryadi, et. Al, (2019 : 218) is a process naturalistic inquiry that seeks deep understanding of social phenomena experience. Because the aim of this study was to characterize pronunciation, especially the pronunciation of phonetic transcript texts, a descriptive

qualitative approach was used in this study. The sample for this study consisted of three English Department students, and data were collected from them through random sampling. The study data came from students' searches for phonetic transcriptions using tools for phonetics and reading texts containing phonetic transcriptions. Interviews serve as a tool for researchers in data collection is the purpose of this study. Researchers used interview questions to collect data for the development instrument.

The International Phonetic Alphabet and other sound-based or alphabetic writing systems were used by researchers to analyze the data (Roach, 1998). We will provide additional data that we analyzed from various websites and other journals as additional research in descriptive analysis.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

These details show the results of interview tests with 7 students majoring in English at North Sumatra State University. The result is used for obtain evidence of improvements in students' pronunciation and literature related to use The application determines what Latin letters are in an English word or sentence (the Telephotics application).

5 students use the phone application and 2 students do not use the application. 5 students who use the application agree that the application really helps students to determine what Latin letters are in an English word or sentence and 2 others are of a neutral opinion because they feel they do not know the use of the application. And also 4 people think that the application is good and 1 other student said neutral and 2 others who did not use the application also said neutral.

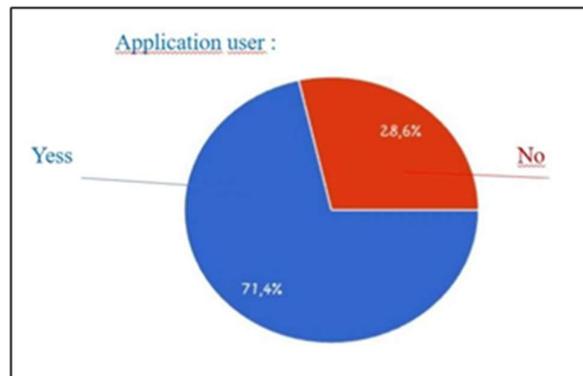


Diagram 1

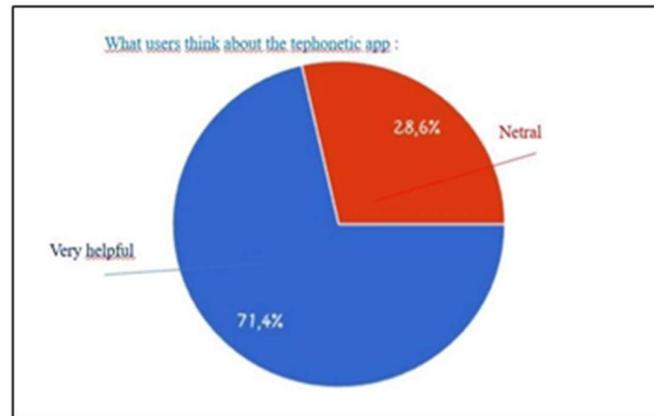


Diagram 2

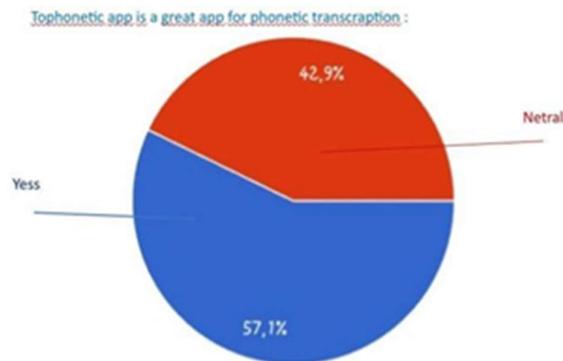


Diagram 3

Then the results obtained from this study. We can hone and further develop our capacity to learn the *International Phonetics Alphabet* (IPA), which is utilized in phonetics transcription, by studying phonetic transcriptions from abstracts and words or phrases. So, in the future, if we have trouble knowing how to pronounce a word, the phonetic transcriptions maybe a helpful alternative. Because it is appropriate for phonetic transcriptions primary purpose, which is to provide a visual representation of a word's correct pronunciation. An alternative that enables us to learn a word's pronunciation in English when we are unsure or don't even know how to pronounce it is phonetic transcriptions.

Naturally, this can assist with and enhance our English pronunciation. Studying phonetic transcriptions has the benefit of providing explicit instructions on the sound that should be utilized on a word or phrase. In other words, studying more makes it simpler for us to understand how to read a word correctly. The most efficient method for determining the *International Phonetics Alphabet* (IPA) of a word is to use the tophonic.com

application or website to learn phonetics transcription. Because using an English dictionary is another option, we would be overwhelmed if we searched for each word's phonetic transcription individually. It could be explained that the student can improve their pronunciation in English by using tophonetic.app and make it clear the sound of the word. So, the Student can be easier and faster to search and to know the phonetic transcriptions.

CONCLUSION

When using the phonetics application, the students had good English pronunciation. Through it, they conducted a phonetic transcriptions search. Their English pronunciation has been improved using the phonetic transcriptions. It is simple to pronounce words appropriately when searching abstract text and words or phrases. Seven student samples showed that pronouncing may be improved by using the tophonetics.app for seeking phonetic transcriptions.

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