



Learning English Through Hobbies: Exploring Students' Learning Style at English Skills Classes

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Abstrak

This study delves into the expanding differences and diversities among students in higher education, encompassing various backgrounds, ethnicities, cultures, and learning styles. The advent of technological advancements has prompted educators to reevaluate traditional teaching approaches, emphasizing the importance of aligning teaching methods with students' learning styles to prevent dissonance. Misalignment between teaching and learning styles can lead to student dissatisfaction and poor performance. This paper explores the significance of learning styles in achieving successful education outcomes. It investigates how individual learning styles, such as visual, auditory, and kinesthetic, impact language learning success, particularly in English education. The study examines the correlation between learning styles, hobbies, and language acquisition techniques. The results indicate that incorporating hobbies into learning can enhance students' comfort and receptiveness to the educational process, thereby promoting language skills development.

Kata Kunci: diversity, learning styles, teaching methods, language learning, education outcomes

Introduction

Differences and diversity of students involved in higher education continue to expand. Students come to colleges with diverse backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures, and from many training and institute programs, with

different learning styles. These technological changes and advances have also led many educators to reconsider traditional and uniform methods of learning, and to emphasize the importance of considering students' learning styles. A misfit between styles



of learning and teaching can cause a student's disappointment in receiving lessons and also cause low performance among them (Chetty et al., 2019).

Learning styles contribute to the success of learning. This statement is not excessive, students learn best by seeing how important materials or teaching materials are presented in the class and how to have the teaching materials meet with them. If there is no interest in matter, there will be no learning process occurring. As suggested by Gilakjani (2012) Knowing the teaching style of each student is most important in order to make it easier for teachers to incorporate materials or materials into their teaching. There are many factors which influence a learner's success in English learning in the common factor that affects language learning is age, talent and intelligence, cognitive force, attitude, motivation and personality (Ellis, 2008). In addition, stylistic learning and learning strategies also help to be successful in learning a language.

Style of study is one of the factors that influence language learning. Steward and felicetti (1992, as quoted in Shanti Manipuspika, 2020) It claims that learning style is an educational condition where palin students are good at studying. Learning a foreign language is not so easy. It requires a strategy to deal with the learning process. Some students may succeed and some of them may not succeed. A successful student may find many useful strategies. So that they can overcome their weaknesses and they can exploit their strengths. On the other hand, unsuccessful learners may not

recognize the problems they have or evaluate their weaknesses in learning. A learner must, therefore, have an awareness of and knowledge of learning styles. Teachers must observe, propose, present and allow new style approaches to predict individual differences in learning (An & Carr, 2017).

In many cases the application of the learning style theory has created a myriad of methods used to categorize learning styles. There is no definite method currently used, but an alternative is that some methods of classification and learning approach are being used (Brown, 1975). That discuss methodical teaching of language, approaches, methods and techniques. Methods of corresponding to favored learning styles, 'visual', 'hearing' or 'kinesthetic', or, in some cases, combination (such as 'visualize auditory') (BAKER, 2020), (Pourhosein Gilakjani, 2011), (DePorter & Hernacki, 2009). Some students are visual learners, while others are auditory or kinesthetic learners. When students use all their senses to receive information, they seem to have a preference in the way they receive learning well (Cuaresma, 2008).

Students' learning styles based on their hobbies, many students who learn language use hobbies through audio and audiovisual (Shanti Manipuspika, 2020). This article considers how people learn from their own methods that are part of their hobbies or hobbies for them to learn languages. English language has become important part of many aspects of life including education (Maulana et al., 2023; Pebriano et al., 2023; Tanjung et



al., 2023). English is widely spoken around the world; there is a need for students to acquire communication skills to achieve success in their respective fields (Yulianty & Al Farhan, 2023). English which is a second language or a foreign language has paid a lot of attention to the use of media in the classroom. Movies, music, are other audio, audiovisual resources related to entertainment, and examples of media use (Albiladi et al., 2018).

Students have different styles of learning their language, students learning by methods depending on their comfort in studying. Some students are visual students, while others are audio. Audio-visual students learn visually through charts, graphs, and pictures as well as movies. Meanwhile, audio learners learn by listening to talks and reading. Kinesthetic students learn by moving (Shanti Manipuspika, 2020). Audio learners by reading using the Internet where technology gains variation. In addition to traditional reading patterns such as reading from books, reading from electronic devices such as e-book readers, tablet computers, and cell phones have become widespread (Akarsu & Dariyemez, 2014). Students' methods and learning styles are adapted to their hobbies, to see if the student's methods and learning styles are effective for their language study we can see from studies of various students to different learning styles. But once again this learning style is adapted to the needs of the student himself, it may be that these methods and styles of learning become ineffective because they

do not make their hobby a learning form. So here the possible ineffective methods and learning styles must exist.

Many researchers have shown interest and have done research related to learning. (Chetty et al., 2019) Is one of them. He analyzed the style of study at pahang Malaysia university enrolled in the course of programming techniques and to investigate the relationship between the student's learning style and the preferred teacher's teaching style. Of the three types of learning styles (visual, audio-visual and kinesthetic), that most student respondents, like visual learning styles, followed kinesthetic learning styles, and visual styles. In research findings (Shanti Manipuspika, 2020) Featuring the four style preference used by the English freshman from the university of brawijaya, the poor visual, auditory, and kinesthetic. He pointed out that individuals are unique because they have their own preferences in learning English. In addition, individuals also have a different ability to understand material, to be taught in lessons they learn well, and to face their obstacles in learning. The wide range of learning styles indicates that these learning the preference of individual individuals from their cultural and cultural results is biologically inherent, in further research (Berková et al., 2020). The study brought new discoveries regarding fact-style factors of university and college preference in marketing subjects. Students prefer learning styles based on motivation and intent, especially, a surface approach and deep-problem based learning style. This



discovery may be regarded as the original result. It is therefore suggested to innovate education strategies and teaching methods not only for marketing subjects but also for other subjects.

Method

This research is a qualitative descriptive study. This research framework uses the assumption that learning by using hobbies in English class is easier to accept learning. The collection of data from this study was carried out by interviewing the research subjects. In this study, researchers analyzed learning methods using hobbies whether they were very effective when used in class when learning English. The subjects of this research were 4 students of the English Department class 2020/2021. The learning research method using hobbies in the classroom was chosen because it can make it easier for students to accept English learning. It is very important for them to be able to receive and capture lessons well, so that they can increase their academic achievement.

Result and Discussion

After conducting interviews with the research subjects, namely 4 students majoring in English Education. The author finds that most of them are more comfortable learning using hobbies because learning feels comfortable and because their hobbies are learning without structure. According to them, learning to adapt to learning styles (audio, audio-visual, kinesthetic) can facilitate learning activities and

according to them, learning to use hobbies such as watching movies, reading books, experiences and listening to music, according to them, can improve their English skills. Based on interviews with research subjects, they agreed that learning with hobbies has many advantages. They feel more comfortable learning and they feel more receptive to learning by learning in tandem with their hobbies.

Audio learning style is related to the hobby of listening to music according to research subjects who have this hobby they tend to only get vocabulary from listening, but it can improve their listening skills. Vocabulary appears in every language skill teaching (listening, reading, writing, and speaking), and also aspects of language form (Anggraini & Al Farhan, 2023). Furthermore, subjects who use the audio-visual learning style are related to their hobby of watching movies. According to research subjects who have this hobby, they are more comfortable learning because they can acquire new words, pronouncements and intonation because of their hobbies. Finally, the learning style of kinesthetic students, research subjects related to hobbies can be reading and learning based on experience, the subjects said that learning with hobbies is closely related to learning with experience and the acquisition of learning that they get more according to them.

Discussion of Learning Style related to hobbies is very closely related to skills in language learning. What the author focuses on is learning using



hobbies can support language learning skills, both directly and indirectly. Regarding the concept of learning, the concept of learning must be in accordance with the needs of the students and must be in accordance with the student's learning style (Pourhosein Gilakjani, 2011). The concept of learning according to their learning style must also be assisted by the teacher because the teacher must meet the needs of students in learning. All learning methods and concepts are the main points in learning because if the learning method used is not in accordance with the learning style of students in the language class, the teaching provided will not achieve the learning objectives themselves. A guide is needed to optimize proper English learning practices (Guntur et al., 2023).

The use of appropriate learning methods greatly influences the absorption of student learning, so teachers should first know what learning methods are used by their students. Hobbies here are related to their learning methods and the use of hobbies as an aid in absorbing student learning and being able to improve language learning skills. Although this hobby context enhances students' language learning skills, more research is needed to increase the use of this learning style. It is widely believed that matching teacher teaching styles to student learning styles has a significant positive effect on student academic performance and achievement. There has been success in matching learning styles and teaching styles and the results of this study demonstrate this. To

improve student learning, it is necessary to have variations in student learning styles and exposure to different and diverse learning environments, as well as different teaching methods and approaches used by their teachers. So that the learning method prepared can achieve the goals of the learning.

Simpulan

The current study found conclusions and conclusions regarding learning methods with their hobbies based on qualifications with university level students in the Department of English Language Education who improve their skills through several indirect learning processes, namely by using hobbies and learning styles. Audio, audio visual and kinesthetic learning styles determine the learning process of students in language classes. Matching learning styles and student learning styles is the core of this learning, developing learning variations can be one way to improve student learning methods in language classes. The learning absorption carried out by students according to their learning styles is also different, but all the methods they use in learning absorption can improve their language teaching skills in class.

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