

# USING VOA NEWS TOWARDS THE LISTENING SKILL OF THE SECOND GRADE STUDENTS OF MAN 2 MAKASSAR

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## ABSTRACT

There are many medias can be used in teaching listening skills. VOA News is one of the best media that can make the students' comprehend the content of listening material. In this study, researchers conduct the research with 2 classes. This research was aimed to examine whether or not the use of VOA News in teaching listening skill can affect the students' listening skill at the second grade students. The research design used in this research was Quasi-experimental design with non-equivalent controlled group design. The technique used in taking the sample was purposive sampling. Data were collected by using instrument with pre-test and post-test. To get the result, the score of pre-test and post-test was analyzed by using a software called SPSS program. The first step in analyzed the data was normality test to know that the sample has been drawn from a normally distributed population. The second step was paired t-test to calculate the mean score, standard deviation, score of t-count and significant (2-tailed). The results showed that the null hypothesis was rejected which VOA News is not effective to increase the students listening skill while the alternative hypothesis was accepted which VOA News is effective to increase the students listening skill.

**Keywords:** VOA News, Listening Skill, SPSS, Second Grade Students.

## 1) INTRODUCTION

Listening is one of the skills that have to be learned by the students as a communication part in education filed. According to Morley and Rost (2001), to learn a language, listening is the most important skill to be learned because it is mostly used in normal daily life. Moreover, listening skill facilitate the development of the other language skills since it develops faster than the other language skills.

Listening is an active process that can explain what the listeners hear with what they already know. In listening, listeners learns to distinguish between sounds, vocabulary with grammatical structures, stress, intonation and many more about what the speaker actually says and how the listeners understand the content of the media. Moulic (2012) stated that acceptance of the language through the auditory system is called listening. It involves accepting the sound waves, identifying the language, processing them into a right comprehension of the speaker's

goals and defend the message for the future use. The importance of listening in academic contexts and daily life is a crucial thing for students to get a good listening skill.

In the 2020 era, the Covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia triggered various problems in the world of education. In order to prevent the transmission of corona virus disease, teachers and students must follow the governments' policies with stay at home and reduce activities in the outside. Schools must be closed and students have to study through an online system.

Nowadays, students as a millennial generation use their gadget to increase their learning quality. The use of technology in education is necessary because students are known as digital natives (Yap Wei Li, 2016). Independent learning activities for this pandemic era make students feel less satisfied with the knowledge they get. So, the ability of the teacher to use appropriate media in listening will give the great effect for students in online learning. One of suitable media to teach listening skill in online system is VOA News. VOA News or Voice of America is one program from VOA Special English.

From the explanation above, the purpose of this research is to recognize whether there is effect of VOA News in teaching listening skill at the second grade students of MAN 2 Makassar. Using VOA News as the media of listening specifically means here as a matter to get a simple way in learn English.

## **2) METHODS**

### **Population and Sample**

The population of this research was the second-grade students of MAN 2 Makassar in academic year 2020/2021. The total numbers of population were 403 students.

The technique sampling used in this research was purposive sampling. The two classes from second grade students was selected to be the sample where the 20 students in MIPA 6 as an experimental group and 20 students in MIPA 7 as the controlled group. There were 16 males and 24 females.

### **Research Design**

The research design used a *quasi-experimental* that involving two groups of classes with non-equivalent controlled group design. According to Sugiono (2014), this design is exactly like pre-test post-test control group design except that there is no random assignment into group. The design of this study was included in quantitative paradigm as the collection of information which quantifiable and subjected to statistical analysis.

### **Research Variable**

There were two variables in this research, independent and dependent variable, which involved to know the improvement of students' listening skill towards the given treatments. The independent variable in this research was VOA News, while the dependent variable was VOA News.

### **Research Instrument**

The instrument that the researcher used in this research was listening test. According to Brown (2004) test is a method to measure someone's ability or knowledge in their own field. In this research, the researcher used multiple choice for pre and post test, while true-false question for the treatment test. It consists of 10 items on each test.

### **Data Collection Procedures**

The students were given the pre-test in the first meeting to identify how far the students' ability in listening skill before watching VOA News. After that, the researcher gives three treatments to

the students and closed with post-test to know the enhancement of students' ability after watching VOA News.

The treatments were conducted using Zoom application due to online learning system in this pandemic era. Zoom is a cloud-based service offers meetings and webinars and provides content sharing and video conferencing capabilities. These treatments were carried out from 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 until 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The content of the pre-test was same as the post-test in order to avoid if there was a striking influence in instrument quality after the students' being treated.

**Data Analysis Technique**

The data of this research were analyzed by classifying the score and using SPSS program, the researcher used a statistical technique as follows:

**1. Scoring the Students Correct Answer**

Score	Criteria
90 – 100	Excellent at identifying the main idea, general, and specific information. Accurately infers implied information. No problems at recognizing vocabulary and expressions.
80 – 89	Very good at identifying the main idea, general, and specific information. Shows good ability to infer implied information. Almost no problems at recognizing vocabulary and expressions.
70 – 79	Good at identifying the main idea, general, and specific information. Shows some ability to infer implied information. Some minor problems at recognizing vocabulary and expressions.
60 – 69	Still able to identify the main idea, general, and specific information. Still shows ability to infer implied information. Some problems at recognizing vocabulary and expressions.
0 – 69	Unable to identify the main idea, general, and specific information. Fails to infer information. Many problems at recognizing vocabulary and expressions.

([www.slideshare.com](http://www.slideshare.com), accessed on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021)

**2. SPSS Program**

The researcher used SPSS program in calculated the score of pre-test and post-test. The first test is normality test and the second test is paired t-test.

**3) RESULTS**

**Normality test**

**One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test**

		Pre	Post
N		20	20
Normal Parameters <sup>a,b</sup>	Mean	69.5000	83.0000
	Std. Deviation	8.25578	8.64505

Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.225	.286
	Positive	.225	.286
	Negative	-.198	-.214
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z		1.007	1.278
<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		<b>.263</b>	<b>.076</b>

*Experimental group*

**One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test**

		Pre	Post
N		20	20
Normal Parameters <sup>a,b</sup>	Mean	72.5000	81.0000
	Std. Deviation	8.50696	8.52242
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.216	.247
	Positive	.216	.247
	Negative	-.211	-.203
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z		.964	1.103
<b>Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)</b>		<b>.311</b>	<b>.175</b>

*Controlled Group*

**Paired t-test**

*1. Experimental group*

**Paired Samples Statistics**

		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	pre_EXP	69.5000	20	8.25578	1.84605
	post_EXP	83.0000	20	8.64505	1.93309

**Paired Samples Correlations**

		N	Correlation	Sig.
Pair 1	pre_EXP & post_EXP	20	.833	.000

**Paired Samples Test**

	Paired Differences					T	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Pair 1 pre_EXP - post_EXP	-13.50000	4.89360	1.09424	-15.79028	-11.20972	-12.337	19	.000

## 2. Controlled group

Paired Samples Statistics

		Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Pair 1	pre_CTR	72.5000	20	8.50696	1.90221
	post_CTR	81.0000	20	8.52242	1.90567

Paired Samples Correlations

		N	Correlation	Sig.
Pair 1	pre_CTR & post_CTR	20	.690	.001

Paired Samples Test

		Paired Differences				t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower				Upper
Pair 1	pre_CTR - post_CTR	-8.50000	6.70820	1.50000	-11.63954	-5.36046	-5.667	19	.000

## 4) DISCUSSION

Listening is receiving what the speaker actually says. It means that listening refers to the selective process of attending to, hearing, understanding and remembering aural symbols (Michael Rost, 2011). According to Harmer in Fatma (2018) teaching listening using some strategies such as communicative approach or deal with unfamiliar word are essential for students to enhance their learning quality. Teaching listening using media visual is very necessary because the students can 'feel' the situation on the video. However, some of learning processes at school usually use an audio only as a listening material and it cannot improve the students' listening score.

The content of VOA News has an overview situation which provides person, sound and background to express the students' knowledge about the meaning of the video. This has been supported by the study from Mirvan et al in Norazeen (2017), which found that students' perception on using video media was positive because their listening became better and they were more interested to learn the skill and the language.

The normality test used in this research was *Kolmogorov-Smirnov* formula. If the value of Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) in the normality table was greater than 0.05, it concluded that the data derived from the sample was normally distributed. After the data was normally distributed, the analysis can be continued with paired t-test.

Paired t-test was used to know the differences between two variables for the same subject (as cited in [www.sphweb.bumc.bu.edu](http://www.sphweb.bumc.bu.edu)). The paired t-test consist of three outputs namely paired sample statistics, paired sample correlations and paired samples test. The final result of the data can be seen in paired samples test, which the p-value (Sig. 2 tailed) was smaller than 0.05. It means that there was a significant difference in pre-test and post-test using VOA News.

The hypothesis of this research which Null Hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>), VOA News is not effective toward the listening skill was rejected and Alternative Hypothesis (H<sub>a</sub>), VOA News is effective toward the listening skill was accepted.

Moreover, the result of this research was in line with the previous research finding, there were Tasya, Tohidin and Priajana (2018) conducting Quasi-experimental research found that the students were paying attention and focused on the material that delivered through video than audio media.

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