

ABSTRACT

RIA ANGELIA, 2024. “*THE INFLUENCE OF USING DUOLINGO ON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS’ VOCABULARY MASTERY: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY*”. English Education Department. Faculty of Educational Sciences and Teachers’ Training. Siliwangi University. Tasikmalaya.

Vocabulary is an important component in English language learning that supports students' communicative competence. A good understanding of vocabulary is the foundation for speaking, writing, listening, reading, and grammar mastery. However, students often find it difficult to understand and apply vocabulary, especially if they are not interested in learning through conventional methods. Therefore, it is important to develop more interesting teaching methods, such as using the Duolingo application, to improve students' motivation and learning outcomes. This study used a quasi-experimental method to determine the effect of Duolingo on vocabulary acquisition of grade IX students in one of the junior high schools in Tasikmalaya. The population was all of class IX, and the sample was determined by random sampling, with IX-D as the experimental class and IX-F as the control class. The researcher conducted this study for six meetings, using Duolingo for the experimental class and conventional teaching for the control class. Pre-test and post-test were given for data collection. To analyze the data, the researcher used an independent sample t-test in SPSS, and the result showed that the sig (2-tailed) was $0.00 < 0.05$; this indicates that the alternative hypothesis (H_a) is accepted and the null hypothesis (H_o) is rejected. The researcher concluded that there is an effect of using Duolingo on junior high school students' vocabulary acquisition.

Keywords: Duolingo, Junior High School Students, Vocabulary Mastery, Experimental Study, Application