



## TikTok for Strengthening Students' Vocabulary Mastery at SMP Negeri Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai

Fifin Tutuarima<sup>1</sup>, Jasmal Martora<sup>2</sup>, Zulhasmi Abasa<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup> Universitas Pasifik Morotai, Indonesia

E-mail: [vivintutuarima6@gmail.com](mailto:vivintutuarima6@gmail.com)

### Article Info

#### Article history:

Received September 08, 2025

Revised September 12, 2025

Accepted September 16, 2025

#### Keywords:

TikTok Application, Student Vocabulary Mastery

### ABSTRACT

*The aim of this study was to obtain information about whether or not the use of TikTok application was effective to improve student's vocabulary. The researcher used pre-experimental method. The data collected by using test, in this case a pre-test and post-test. The pre-test given to the students before giving treatment and post-test was given to the students after giving treatment. The population of this study was the seventh-grade students in SMPN Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai. Meanwhile the sample of this study is 40 students. The results showed that the value of the average score in the pre-test was 42.07 and the average of the post-test was 82, 20. It can be concluded that the student vocabulary had increased after being given treatment using TikTok application. This is also evidenced by the results of the statistical analysis which proves that there is a significance difference in students' vocabulary before and after using the tiktok application with the results (2-tailed) value of 0,000, which is less than 0. 005. It means that Null Hypothesis (H0) was rejected while the Alternative Hypothesis (Ha) was accepted. In other words, the use of the TikTok application was effective for improving student's vocabulary.*

*This is an open access article under the [CC BY-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) license.*



### Article Info

#### Article history:

Received September 08, 2025

Revised September 12, 2025

Accepted September 16, 2025

#### Keywords:

Aplikasi TikTok, Penguasaan Kosakata siswa

### ABSTRACT

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk memperoleh informasi apakah penggunaan aplikasi TikTok efektif untuk meningkatkan kosakata siswa atau tidak. Peneliti menggunakan metode eksperimen. Data dikumpulkan menggunakan tes. Dalam hal ini, pre-test dan post-test. Pra tes di berikan kepada siswa sebelum memberikan perlakuan dan pos test diberikan kepada siswa setelah memberikan perlakuan. Populasi penelitian ini adalah siswa kelas 7 di SMPN Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai. Sementara itu sampel penelitian ini adalah 40 siswa. Hasil penelitian menunjukan bahwa nilai skor rata-rata dalam pre-test adalah 42.07 dan skor rata-rata post-test adalah 82,20. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa kosakata siswa meningkat setelah diberikan perlakuan menggunakan aplikasi TikTok. Ini juga dibuktikan dari hasil analisis statistik yang membuktikan bahwa ada perbedaan signifikan kosakata siswa sebelum dan sesudah menggunakan aplikasi tiktok dengan hasil (2 tailed) dengan nilai 0.000 yang lebih kecil dari 0.05, ini berarti bahwa Null Hypothesis (H0) ditolak, sementara Hipotesis alternative (Ha) di terima. dengan kata lain, penggunaan aplikasi TikTok efektif untuk meningkatkan kosa kata siswa.

*This is an open access article under the [CC BY-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) license.*



***Corresponding Author:***

Fifin Tutuarima

Universitas Pasifik Morotai

E-mail: [vivintutuarima6@gmail.com](mailto:vivintutuarima6@gmail.com)**INTRODUCTION**

According to Sari & Aminatun (2021:391) saying that vocabulary is a fundamental element of language proficiency and forms a substantial foundation for effective learning is essentially asserting that a strong vocabulary is a key component of language skills and is crucial for successful language acquisition. According to Reyes-Chua & lidawan (2019:391) To listening, reading, speaking and writing. by mastery of vocabulary, students can form sentences that are patterned properly and correctly. Students must practice to mastery the advanced vocabulary. According to Hukom (2021:391) In learning vocabulary, there are several common problems facing by students). Frist, the students have difficulty differentiating the word classes. Second, students have difficulties to translate the meaning, and third, students.

According to Sinaga & Oktaviani (2020:393) learning media can attract students' attention and motivation and learning. The uses of learning media is needed to behavior teaching and learning. By using learning media, student will feel interested and happy when learning English vocabulary, because it makes the writing clear and creases the quantity of teaching and learning. Mesial currently used by many people is a technology tool for communication.

One of the social media that make the researcher interested is TikTok According to Sun & Yin (2022:393). According to Bulele Y. N (2020:393) Tiktok

is an application that is widely used by millennia. Released in 2016, this app invites users to enjoy short videos and create their own videos. the existence of tiktok media in Indonesia are widely used by the community to create and some business. The popularity of tiktok makes many users, mostly young people, use this platform to get information and knowledge that's packaged in a solid manner through content of tiktok content creators don't crassly make videos to convey education. the content creator must be in accordance with the steps of material delivery. First, opening. Is begin of the video that the presenter greet audience and show little about learning materials. Second are contents. The presenter delivers the vocabulary material.it can present with showing the pictures or anything. And the last is closing. In this part, the presenter closing the video with a question to make a viewer interesting to thinking question availed answered in the column's commentary, so the answers of the questions can be discussed in the column's commentary or next videos.

Based on the information the researcher from the English teacher at SMP Negeri Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai, it was found that there are still many students whose vocabulary mastery is still lacking. For this reason, researchers are interested in improving students' vocabulary mastery by using the tiktok application. This tiktok playing application is believed to be able to improve students' vocabulary skills.



## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Definition OF Vocabulary**

According to Puspita & Feni (2022:73) vocabulary is a crucial thing that must be known as the main capital to learn sentence construction and other language skills because vocabulary is the basic foundation in language because one must have sufficient vocabulary to be able to understand what is read and heard, can speak and write in words. it means that vocabulary plays an important role in learning English as second language. According to Firmadani (2021:73) Say that improving students' vocabulary is needs interactive learning media, with multimedia presented in a mobile android with technology. Learning English as a second language by using technology will bring many benefits for students.

### **2. Types of Vocabulary**

According to Kenji Kitao & S. Kathlen (2013:22) says in general, vocabulary we know can be divided into two groups' passive vocabulary and active vocabulary. Passive vocabulary contains all the words that you understand when you read or listen, but which we do not used (or cannot remember) in our own writing and speaking active vocabulary is all the words you understand, plus all the words that we can use ourselves.

### **3. Importance of Vocabulary**

According to Citra Dewi (2022:11) the expansion of one's vocabulary is one of the most essential aspects of learning a language. One's thoughts and emotions may be communicated to others via the use of language. Because vocabulary is so crucial to the acquisition of second language abilities (reading, listening,

speaking and writing), it is almost usually included under these categories. In addition to the study of foreign language, developing one's vocabulary is also an essential part of acquiring a second language. A person's vocabulary isn't just a collection of words; it also refers to their ability to assist others effectively communicate the thoughts that they have.

### **4. Teaching Vocabulary**

According to Nur Hidayati (2020:12) Teaching vocabulary is an activity to acquire some new words to improve the language. He said that vocabulary is the total number of words in language an individual knows and those words are used as a vehicle of language to express ones thought. So, teaching vocabulary is an activity to acquire some new words to improve the language. Point out that there are many ways of presenting new vocabulary.

### **5. Definition Tiktok Application**

According to Aji (2018:6) learning process contains five communication components, namely teacher, learning materials, learning media, students and learning objectives. Learning media used by the teacher must be arranged systematically, based on Without learning media, teaching and learning process. According to Warini (2020:7), there are already several TikTok users who create videos, usually they will actively pot videos. Take advantage of comments to ask. TikTok users always answer questions in the comment's column or later via the next video post. if you are an English content creator, make videos that are unique and easy to understand to that in addition to attracting someone's interest in learning,



TikTok users are also comfortable watching TikTok videos, don't forget to include English learning to explore even more.

TikTok is a social networking site that enables users to make 15 to 60 second videos with a variety of elements including music, filter stickers, and other imaginative features. Taking into account that the TikTok program has characteristics that may make content more appealing and simpler to market. A Chinese startup named ByteDance initially released an app with a brief lifespan called Douyin before launching this one.

## **6. How to Use TikTok Application**

According to Hadi & Indriani (2021:9) The ways to use TikTok application are as follows:

### **a. Download TikTok application**

Before you know how to use TikTok application, of course you must have TikTok application first. Take it easy, TikTok is a free application that can be downloaded on the Google Play Store or Apple Store. How to download it is very easy, here are the steps;

1. Access the Play Store application.
2. Search on a search engine by typing TikTok
3. Install the application

### **b. Log in to TikTok application**

Already have TikTok application, you have to enter or log in to TikTok application account first. If you don't log in, then you might find it difficult to save the recordings and edit videos on TikTok. Every video that you make will be automatically saved into your draft TikTok account. This is how to log in to TikTok application

1. Access TikTok application that you downloaded earlier

2. Click the person symbol in the lower right corner.

## **7. Procedure TikTok Application for Vocabulary Learning**

According to Lilis Cantika (2023:26) Teachers need some preparation before teaching students to use the TikTok application

- a. the teachers make three videos using the TikTok application. One video contains explanations about vocabulary mastery as material, while two videos contain daily activities about vocabulary mastery as material.
- b. the teacher shows the video to the students.
- c. students see and take knowledge of vocabulary mastery.
- d. the teacher closes the video which contains an explanation of vocabulary mastery.
- e. to show their ability to master vocabulary, the teacher gives instructions to students to do daily activities about vocabulary mastery.

## **METHOD**

### **A. Research Design**

The researcher used quantitative. According to Sugiyono (2018:13) quantitative data is a research method based on positivistic (concrete data), research data in the form of numbers that will be measured using statistics as a calculation test tool, related to the problem being studied to produce a conclusion. The researcher uses the pre-experimental research method because this research method is very relevant to the title of this research in addition; students are very limited in participating in this learning



process. According to Rukminingsih & Adnan (2020:16) pre-experimental research design is experimental research involving one group and there is no comparison group (control group).

### **B. Research variable**

In this research, there are two variables they are an independent variable and dependent variable.

1. Independent variable of this research is use of the tiktok application
2. Dependent variable is the students' vocabulary mastery

### **C. Population And Sample**

The population of this study is all the seventh-grade students of SMP Negeri Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai, the population are 50 students. The research sample the use total population. There are 40 students as the sample.

### **D. Research Instrument**

The researcher used was a vocabulary test to obtain data. The consist of 50 questions there are multiple choice and matching test. In this study, the pre-test and post-test has the same items.

### **E. Procedure of Data Collection**

#### **1. Pre-Test**

Pre-test is a test carried out before teaching begins to measure students' vocabulary skills in using the tiktok application and researchers will provide test question in the form of multiple choice, matching tests totaling 50 questions and a time of 90 minutes.

#### **2. Treatment**

After knowing the results of the pre-test, the researcher gives the students a tiktok

application so that there were changes behavior that could influence learning outcomes. To find out which behavior influenced the variable, the researcher gives the material six times in the learning process.

#### **a. The First meeting**

At the first meeting, the researcher explained to the students about vocabulary (definition of vocabulary and types of vocabulary) and the tiktok application method (definition and how to use the tiktok application) to the students SMP Negeri Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai especially in the seventh grade.

#### **b. The second meeting**

In this meeting, the researcher was teaching the word "school area" to students using the tiktok application.

#### **c. The third meeting**

In this meeting, the researcher was teaching the word "class area" to students using the tiktok application.

#### **d. The fourth meeting**

In this meeting, the researcher was teaching the word "kitchen appliances" to students using the tiktok application.

#### **e. The fifth meeting**

In this meeting, the researcher was teaching the word "favorite drinks and food" to students using the tiktok application.

#### **f. The sixth meeting**

In this meeting, the researcher was teaching the word "of favorite animal" to students using the tiktok application.

### **3. Post-Test**

Post-test is the provision of post-test question to students to determine whether or not there are changes in behavior so that



they can determine the extent of students' abilities in using the tiktok application and researchers will provide post-test questions' namely multiple-choice test, matching test totaling 50 questions and 90 minutes.

## F. Data Analyze Technique

To facilitate efficient and accurate data processing, this research employed a computer running SPSS Windows 22.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Research Result

#### 1. Descriptive Test

The purpose of descriptive statistics test is to determine the average value, minimum value, maximum value and standard deviation of each test or test, namely experimental pre-test and post-test by using tiktok application improve vocabulary.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Pre-Test	40	20	60	42.07	10.098
Post Test	40	70	90	82.20	4.937
Valid N (listwise)	40				

The table shows the mean score on the pre-test is 42.07, after being tested with the tiktok application, it turns out that the post-test score increased. This can be seen from the mean score are 82.20. Thus, it can be concluded that the tiktok application is effective in enhance students' vocabulary.

#### 2. Normality Test

The table below is a test of normality which aims to analyze pre-test and post-test data because each data in quantitative pre-experimental must be tested of normality.

Table 2. Tests of Normality

	Class	Kolmogorov-Smirnov <sup>a</sup>			Shapiro-Wilk		
		Statistic	Df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Students'	Pre Test	.103	40	.200 <sup>*</sup>	.972	40	.401
Result	Post Test	.142	40	.040	.955	40	.116

The table above shows the normality test pre-test and post-test data. In the normality test, the significance value of 0,401 is greater than 0.05, and the post-test value of 0.05. Based on these results, it can be concluded that the data on the pre-test and post-test values are normally distributed.

In statistical analysis, the normality test is very important to ensure that the data used in analysis meets the assumption of normality. This normality assumption is necessary for several reasons. First, statistical analysis that uses normality assumption

Such as variance analysis and regression require normally distributed data. Second, the normally test helps in identifying whether the data has an abnormal distribution, so that the necessary corrective measures can be taken. Therefore, the results of the normality test, which show normally distributed data as in the table above, allow the researchers to proceed with statistical analysis by ensuring that the data meet the required normality assumptions.

#### 3. Paired Samples Test

Paired sample test is a statistical test and used to compare two means of paired data, such as measurements before and after treatment on the same subject. The aim is to determine whether there is significance difference due to treatment or intervention provided.





Table 3. 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 Pre-Test - 1 Post Test	-40.125	8.841	1.398	-42.952	-37.298	-28.704	39	.000

The table above is a paired sample test able that displays the results of statistical analysis to determine whether there is a significance difference in students' vocabulary before and after using the tiktok application. (2-tailed) value of 0,000, which is less than 0.005, can be interpreted that using titkok application can improve student's vocabulary.

This paired sample test results shows that the use of tiktok application has significant effect in improving students' vocabulary. Thus, it can be concluded that the tiktok application is an effective strategy to enhance students' vocabulary.

## Discussion

This study applied a Tiktok application to improve the student's vocabulary in the learning English of SMPN Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai. The results of this research that has carried out that tiktok application can improve the students' vocabulary at the seventh grade. The success of this research is shown by the improvement of the learning outcomes of students who are subject of the research. Based on the analysis from the students' evaluation at the pre-test the highest score got by the students was score 60 and lowest score was 20. While in the post test the highest 70 score got by the students was and lowest score 90 was.

This approach is supported by Astrinia Ristama Tampubolon et. Al (2023:390), the researcher's conclusion is that utilizing TikTok as a teaching tool is

effective in helping students improve their vocabulary. The results obtained from data processing and analysis strongly indicate that tiktok has a significant impact on student's vocabulary, after using the tiktok application for teaching vocabulary in the experimental class, it is evident that this platform is effective for teaching English through social media and positively influences students score, especially in vocabulary mastery. When it comes to learning vocabulary, the tiktok application aids students in memorizing words easily, in summary the tiktok application can be deemed an effective learning tool for vocabulary acquisition, it also has potential to reduce students struggle in memorizing vocabulary, however it's important to note that there are certain aspects to consider when using tiktok as a teaching tool.

In the line with a research Netty et.al (2023:72), the researchers concluded that perception students on eleventh grade students in SMAN 3 Baubau : Tiktok can give an impact to improve English language vocabulary for students, students may explore different cultures and pick up new abilities, including language while using tiktok, this is due to the fact that tiktok contains elements that users, especially younger ones, find appealing and that motivate them to make or watch videos centered on taking part in popular challenges, which frequently incorporate chats or music, these dialogues and music are primarily in English. Participants can enjoyably increase their vocabulary as they attempt to emulate the sounds.

Based on the results of data analysis, the researchers concludes that tiktok application are quite recommended as a strategy to improve students vocabulary because teaching vocabulary using tiktok



application has great benefits that can serve various learning. Through tiktok application, students can add new knowledge and new vocabulary after researchers provide material a tiktok application for students where students can find and classify them into parts of the vocabulary.

## CONCLUSION

The researcher should conclude that using the TikTok application effectively increases vocabulary mastery of the seventh grade SMPN Unggulan 2 Pulau Morotai based on the findings and discussion in the previous chapter. It can be concluded that there are significant differences in the learning results it can be seen in the pre-test, the mean score 42.07. And while the students mean score in the post test is 82.20. Based on the data analysis, can conclude that using TikTok application effectively increases vocabulary mastery is useful can improve that the students score in post-test higher than the students score in pre-test.

## REFERENCES

- Aji 2018. *The Improvement Of Learning Effectiveness In The Lesson Study By Using E-Rubric*. Journal Of Engineering Science And Technology (13) 5,1181-1189.
- Astrini, Ristama Tampubolon 2023. *The Effect Of Using Tiktok On Students' Vocabulary Mastery In Seventh Grade At SMP Negeri 9 Pematang Siantar, Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan Dan Sosial (JIPSI)*. Vol.2,No.3 oktober 2023 e-ISSN: 2829-2723 DOI: 10.58540/Jipsi.v2i3.446
- Bulele, Y.N. 2020. *Utilizing Rosetta Stone Application To Improve Students' Vocabulary Mastery At The Tenth Grade Of Swasta Tunas Bangsa Senior high School*. Universitas Islam negeri Sumatera Utara. Retrieved From [Https:// /Respository. Uinsu.Ac.Id/Id/Eprint/11125](https://Uinsu.Ac.Id/Id/Eprint/11125)
- Citra Dewi 2022. *YouTube Video as A Media to Improve English Vocabulary Mastery of Children Aged 4 – 6 Years at Bina Jaya Kindergarten*. <http://kiddo@lainmadura.ac.id>. E-ISSN : 2716-1641; P-ISSN: 2716-0572.
- Firmadani 2021. *The Used Of Board Race Games Toward The Improvement Of Students Vocabulary's Mwmorization At The First Year Students Of English education departement At Uin Alauddin Makassar*. Jurnal Ilmu budaya, 9(1), 204-211 <https://doi.org/https://10.34050/Jib.V9i1.12620>
- Hadi & Indriani 2021. *TikTok as a Media to Enhancing the Speaking Skills of EFL Student's*. jurnal studi guru dan pembelajaran, Vol.4, No. 1, januari-april 2021 [emdwy98@gmail.com](mailto:emdwy98@gmail.com)
- Kenji Kitao & S. Kathlen Kitao 2013. *Selecting And Developing Teaching/ Learning Materials*. The internet TESL journal, IV(4) Avalable at <http://iteslj.org/Articles/kitao-materials.html>. Accessed 2, 2013
- Netty, Syafitri, & Ismail 2023. *Perception of Using TikTok To Improve Vocabulary Mastery on Eleventh Grade Students At SMA Negeri 3*





*Baubau*. English education journal.  
E-ISSN: 2686-3731,P-ISSN: 2460-0504

Nur Hidayati 2020. *Teaching Vocabulary Though Gesture at Fourth Year Students of*

*Palopo*. Palopo : STAIN Palopo  
Unpublished Thesis p.

Puspita & Feni 2022. *Tiktok application to improve speaking skill at the first grade students of sman 4 sendiri*

Rukminingsi & Adnan 2020. Metode Penelitian Pendidikan: Penelitian Kuantitatif, Penelitian Tindakan Kelas Yogyakarta: Erhaka Utama.

Sari & Aminantu 2021. *Students' Perception On The Used Of English Movies To Improve Vocabulary Mastery*. Journal Of English Language Teaching And Learning, 2(1), 16-22. <https://doi.org/10.33365/Jeltl.V2i1.757>

Sinaga & Oktaviani 2020. The Implementation of Fun Fishing To teach Speaking for Elementary School Students. Journal Students. Journal of English Language Teaching and Learning, 1(1), 1-6.

Sugiyono 2018. Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D Bandung Alfabeta.

Warini 2020. Daya Tarik TikTok Sebagai Media Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris Online. Sintesis Prosiding, 27-34