

# The Use of the TikTok Application as a Music Learning Media for Junior High School Students

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**Abstract**—This article describes how the TikTok application can support and complement music learning. The purpose of writing this article is to offer an alternative learning media development through the TikTok application to develop students' musical competences. The design stages consisted of a) Making TikTok video for an understanding of various musical genres; b) Making a TikTok video about the understanding of the types of traditional musical instruments c) Making a TikTok video introduction to pianica and musical instruments; d) Making TikTok videos for understanding fingering on pianica. The use of TikTok videos as an interactive learning medium is expected to help students understand and accept the music learning process.

**Keywords**—TikTok application, learning media, musical competency

## I. INTRODUCTION

Over the past 3 years from 2017 to 2020, I have conducted over 3500 interviews, in cooperation with myteaching assistants, to try and map out the use of social media. Through this research, I became familiar with the mobile application TikTok. TikTok is described as “.....the leading destination for short-form mobile video. Our mission is to inspire creativity and bring joy”, on their website [1].

The TikTok application is the most popular and viral application, especially for millennials. Along with the development of the times and the rapid advancement of technology, various new and increasingly diverse applications have emerged. As the virtual world becomes crowded, many interesting applications have sprung up. Providers are competing to make applications that can be used for convenience in real life, as well as making people who are now far away feel close to the presence of WhatsApp, Line, Instagram, or other. There are various kinds of applications that are used as learning media. Especially online learning media for long distances that can reach everyone so they can still communicate with others. Many platforms and applications provide interesting video creation support, especially lesson videos. One of them is in the TikTok application. The TikTok application is the most popular and viral application, especially for millennials. TikTok is a Chinese social media network and

music video platform launched in September 2016. This application allows users to make their own short music videos, during the first quarter (Q1) 2018, TikTok established itself as the most downloaded application that is 45.8 million [2].

TikTok was introduced to the social media marked in September 2016 and quickly took a leading role in the universe of social sharing [3]. The TikTok application is also a short video social application that has a lot of music support so that its users can perform their performance with dance, freestyle, and much more so that it encourages the creativity of its users. TikTok was at that time already banned in Bangladesh and was given hit a large fine in the United States for illegally gathering information on children [4].

The TikTok application was blocked by the Indonesian government because it was considered a lot of negative content in it. Regardless of the controversy about the TikTok application, there are various benefits that can be used, one of which is as a music learning medium. The rising trend of Social media platforms has been claimed to make people are becoming less social. The claim states that when youngsters lose interest in studies they tend to “show off” through apps like TikTok [5].

The TikTok application is also widely loved and attractive to Millennials, the majority of whom are school ages.

This article describes how the TikTok application can support and complement music learning. The purpose of writing this article is to offer an alternative development of learning media through the TikTok application to develop students' musical competences. TikTok can be processed and used as an attractive and interactive learning media for students. This application can be implemented as a media of learning music.

## II. METHODS

The procedure carried out to produce video-based learning multimedia is divided into four stages 1) (Concept) conducts preliminary research with needs and learning and determines the learning needs research and determines what material will be delivered. 2) Creating a multimedia designer. This second

stage begins with the creation of the script design, content; 3) (Material Collecting) The collection of materials for drawing ideas and audio; 4) (Assembly) Creating and producing learning multimedia in the form of videos.

The method used in this research is the method of development (Development Research). Development research is an attempt to develop an effective product for school use and not for testing theory. Development research is a process used in education. The products produced include materials for teachers, learning materials, media. The product produced in this research is video TikTok.

In this case, the author conducted learning activities with various understandings and skills in the TikTok application. The stages of this learning design are 1) Making TikTok video for understanding various music genres. 2) Making TikTok video as a learning media for understanding the types of traditional musical instruments 3) Making TikTok video for introducing pianica and musical instruments; 4) Making TikTok video for understanding fingering on pianica.

**III. DISCUSSION**

*A. The TikTok Application as a Learning Media*

The word Media comes from Latin which is the plural form of "medium", literally meaning intermediary or introduction [6]. The Association for Education and Communication Technology (AECT) defines the word media as all forms and channels used for information processing. The National Education Association (NEA) defines media as all objects that can be manipulated, seen, heard, read or discussed along with the instruments used for these activities. Heinich defines the term media as "the term refers to anything that carries information between a source and a receiver" [6]. It is necessary to point out that learning activity is a communication process. In other words. Learning activity occurs when there is communication between the message recipient (P) with the source (S) through the media (M). However, the communication process itself only happened after there was a backlash (feedback). Based on the description above, it can be briefly stated that the learning media is a vehicle for channeling messages or learning information. In this case, the media bridges communication between teachers and students. The three functions of information display the explanation the teacher want to convey. With the existence of media, students can capture the information or explanation they need or want to convey by the teacher. As Syamsuri said [7]:

In this case, the TikTok platform music can clearly provide knowledge for students, on the other hand, it also challenges creativity to make certain movements, but this platform should also be used for other things, for example as a learning media at schools. The opportunity for this platform to be integrated into learning as a media is widely open. Like I did at the beginning of this second semester. Students make videos to explain objects around the school environment in German. They are not finished with just making, but they also have to

present their video in front of the class including telling the process of making it and the benefits they get after doing this assignment.

Syamsuri also explained that the TikTok videos made by students were very interesting and creative [7]. The videos are packaged in a fun way combined with learning materials to create a work that is very helpful in developing classroom learning. Arga also explains in his news interviewing a teacher named Titik Nur Istiqomah in Muntilan, Central Java that TikTok learning they use to fill has uses who is distance learning and this application is quite liked by students [8]. Titik explained there was nothing wrong with using TikTok as a learning media because children would love learning with the TikTok application. This means that TikTok can be very useful for learning where students can get many benefits. Not only that, students can process according to their creativity. Referring to the description above, it can be concluded that the TikTok application can be used as an effective learning media. First, the TikTok application is close to teenagers, the characteristics of students who are the millennial generation who are closely related to the digital world, especially gadgets.

*B. The Use of TikTok as a Music Learning Media*

The utilization of this application can be used as a music learning. Utilizing the TikTok application as a music learning media. This learning media is included in the category of mobile learning-based media. This is in accordance with the definition of mobile learning stated by O'Malley [9], which is a learning in which the learner does not stay in one place or learning activities that occur when learners use mobile technology devices. In this case, the author conducts the learning process with various understandings and skills in the TikTok application. In addition, TikTok comes with features that can be used in the learning process including the following:

TABLE I. FEATURES IN TIK TOK APPS

Features	Use
Voice Record	Record sound through a device, then integrate it into a personal Tik Tok account
Video Record	Record video through a device, then integrate it into a personal Tik Tok account
Backsound	Added background sound that can be downloaded from the Tik Tok application storage media
Edit	Fix and edit the draft video that has been made
Share Duet	Share video that has collaborated with other TikTok applications

From the table 1 there is a feature of voice record, video record, background sound, edit), share, a duet where each feature based on the table described above. In using the TikTok application as a learning media, researchers will focus on four stages of the design. a) Making TikTok video for understanding various musical genres; b) Making TikTok video about understanding the types of traditional musical instruments; c) Making a TikTok video introduction to the pianica instrument; and d) Making TikTok video for playing pianica skills.

1) *TikTok application as a learning media for understanding various music genres*: In the process of creating video content, there are two steps that must be taken. First is the video recording process. This process does a tap on the button below. There are two kinds of video recording itself, The option with 15 seconds and 60 seconds duration. The second is the video editing process where you can add complementary features such as writing, background effects, speed, and timer. In this section the author makes a TikTok video about understanding the various genres of music in the following steps:

a) *First step (Record)*: The first step of the recording process, especially in the early seconds, is by making an intro (opening) with an article entitled "Kinds of Popular Music Genres" with a book background. After that, make movements with your hands while pointing with a pen. In this section, the researcher previously determined the background song (background) with the index hand moving freely randomly during the appointment. There are a few simple steps in the process of making videos about different genres of music. This step is briefly discussed as follows (table 2):

TABLE II. FIRST STEP: (RECORD) VARIOUS MUSIC GENRES

Step (Editing)	Information	Video duration in 15 second
(Intro)	Make a song title that reads "various- Popular music genres"	0-2 second
(Main)	Based on the book background is set on the floor. Then make hand movements by holding pen as if pointing to the paper.	2-12 second
(Outro)	Move the thumb as a sign that it is the closing video.	12-15 second

b) *Second step (Edit)*: In this second step, the researcher edited the video (edit). As explained in the first step of the recording process, here the writer makes a writing template according to the direction of the index hand following a sequential writing template, then in the writing template the names of various popular music genres in the world are mentioned such as: jazz, blues, gospel, Rnb, funk, rock, metal, electronic, reggae, hip-hop, pop, dangdut. At the stage of mentioning the names of the musical genres, after finishing the writer carried out a filter as a complement. After the editing process is complete then upload the video to the profile. Table 3 is an overview of the second step of the editing process.

TABLE III. SECOND STEP: (EDIT) MUSIC GENRES

Step (Editing)	Information	Video duration in 15 second
(Intro)	In this section the writer only adds the glitz effect as a complement	0-2 second
(Main)	Create texts various kinds of popular music genres: jazz, bues, gospel, Rnb, funk, rock, metal, electronic, reggae, hiphop, pop, dangdut follow the index movement.	2-12 second
(Outro)	Just add a gift as an complement	12-15 second

The purpose of making this video is expected that the students can understand various music genres where students can create or innovate to make this type of video more creatively. In this stage of the process, the teacher or student is not fixed on what kind of movement the writer did. Both teachers and students can develop the making of this video more creatively in accordance with their respective innovations and creativity.

2) *TikTok application as a learning media for understanding the types of traditional musical instruments*: The basic step in making videos about the types of traditional musical instruments is to find any traditional musical instrument as material for video content. There are a few simple steps in the process of making a video about different musical instruments. This step is briefly discussed as follows:

a) *First step (Record)*: In this early stage, the researcher recorded a video with foliage as an intro. The intro here is meant to be an intro in a video. Then the video is cut. After that the writer prepares the laptop with a slideshow of images to be recorded. In this process, it is not fixed as what the writer did. Both teachers and students can develop the making of this video.

TABLE IV. FIRST STEP: (RECORD) KINDS OF TRADITIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Step (Record)	Information	Video duration in 15 second
(Intro)	Make a song title "types of traditional musical instruments"	0-2 second
(Main)	Create a slide with an image with a traditional musical instrument name caption: Angklung, Aramba, Bonang, gambus, gamelan, gendang melayu, genggong, gong, jengglong, kecap, kendang, kolintang, kompiang.	2-15 second

b) *Second step (Edit)*: After doing the recording process in making a video, the second step is to make a video editing. In the editing feature we can add songs, text, filters, filp, speed, beauty filters, effects and so on. We can Using this thing more creative. The writer only edited the addition of the video "Lathi-Weird Jenius". The addition of the song can be adjusted according to the video theme that we created. In this case, the writer makes a video of traditional music, the writer

adds a song with the theme of traditional music. After adding the song the next process adds effects.

TABLE V. SECOND STEP: (**EDIT**) TYPES OF TRADITIONAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Edit	Information	Video duration in 15 second
(Intro)	Create a song title "types of traditional musical instruments with additional glitz effects."	0-2 second
(Main)	Just add a filter as an ornament	2-15 second

The idea in making this video is badly needed where the result of making this video is from the process of creative ideas with an explanation of understanding the types of traditional musical instruments, not fixating on what the author does. But here, either the teacher or student can do creativity in the process of explaining the understanding of the types of musical instruments.

3) *The TikTok application as a learning media for the introduction of pianica musical instruments:* As explained before, whether it's making videos about various musical genres and types of traditional musical instruments, there are a few simple steps in the process of making a learning video for the introduction of pianica. This step is briefly discussed as follows:

a) *First step (Record):* The process of recording a video in the initial details uses a high angle, that is the point of view taken higher than the object, so that the object appears below. At the beginning (intro) the Writer makes a 2 second recording highlighting the pianica. Then the second recording the writer throws the pianica blowpipe. The author is looking for a model to serve as an example of how to insert the correct blow pipe, holding the pianica. The third recording shows a child holding the pianika and then inserting a pipe into the pianica. Furthermore, the model shows how to insert the pianica's hand properly and correctly into the belt strap that is on the back of

the pianica. Then the model's left hand holds the pianica and the right hand holds the blow pipe. At the end of the video, the model sounds the pianica in an inflatable way.

TABLE VI. FIRST STEP (RECORD) INTRODUCTION TO PIANICA MUSIC INSTRUMENT

Step (record)	Information	Video duration in 15 second
(Intro)	The process of recording a video in the initial details uses a high angle, that is the point of view taken is higher than the object so that the object appears below. At the beginning (intro) the author makes a recording for 2 seconds highlighting the pianica.	0-2 second
(Main)	Explanation in the text. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Here's how to play the pianica/melody". In this section the model how to enter a good and correct pianica pipe.</li> <li>▪ The Model standing and showing how to hold the pianica properly and correctly by showing the left hand entering the black tie on the back of the pianica.</li> <li>▪ Then the model's left hand holds the pianica and the right hand holds the blow pipe. At the end of the video, the model sounds the pianica in an inflatable way..</li> </ul>	2-15 second

b) *Second step (Edit):* The video editing process in the initial details makes the title "Melodica or pianica is a small wind instrument that is played by direct blowing or using a flexible pipe connected to the mouth" in black color. Then in the second recording added "the following article how to play pianica / melodic" and "pipe input". On the third recording adds the words "put the left hand into the tie". On the fourth take, the recording "the left hand holds the pianica and the right hand presses to play the melody of the song while the mouth blows". To be clearer, consider the following table 7.

TABLE VII. SECOND STEP (EDIT) INTRODUCING PIANICA

Edit	Information	Duration video in 15 second
Intro	Making the text "Melodica or pianica is a small wind instrument that is played by direct blowing or using a flexible pipe connected to the mouth "	0-2 second
Main	Add text in each frame in the following order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Here's how to play pianica / melodic"</li> <li>▪ "input pipe put the left hand into the tie"</li> <li>▪ "the left hand holds the pianika and right hand pressing to play the melody of the song while your mouth is blowing"</li> </ul>	2-15 second

4) *The TikTok application as a learning media for understanding fingering in pianica:* In this section the writer makes a video about understanding fingerlings in pianica. This step is briefly discussed as follows:

a) *First step (Record):* In the first second, the writer describes the position of the fingerings, after that they are immediately applied to pianica in accordance with the formula for the scale fingering, namely 1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5.

**TABLE VIII. FIRST STEP (RECORD) UNDERSTANDING OF PIANICA FINGERING**

Step (Record)	Information	Duration video in 15 second
Intro	The process of recording video at the first second the author describes the position of the finger.	0-2 second
Main	Scale fingering formula" and giving the number formula "1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5"	2-15 second

*b) Second step (Edit):* Editing process at the first second, the writer gives the title "fingerings in pianika usually use a hand consisting of". Then given the title with numbers on the fingers according to the fingers. Where is the thumb no.1 (red) index finger no. 2 (purple) middle finger no.3 (green) ring finger no.4 (yellow) little finger no.5 (brown). In the second part, the writer applies each finger according to the finger numbers by giving title on the video. "Scale fingering formula" and giving the number formula "1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5".

**TABLE IX. SECOND STEP (EDIT) UNDERSTANDING FINGERING ON PIANICA**

Step (Record)	Information	Duration video in 15 second
(Intro)	The editing process in the first seconds of the writer gives the text "fingerings in pianika usually use the same hand consisting of".	0-5 second
(Main)	The text with a number on the finger according to the finger. Where is the thumb no.1 (red) index finger no. 2 (purple) middle finger no.3 (green) ring finger no.4 (yellow) little finger no.5 (brown). In the second part, the writer applies each finger according to the finger number by text on the video "Scale fingering formula" and giving the number formula "1-2-3-1-2-3-4-5".	5-15 second

Focus of the four stages of design that have been described above, such as: a) Making TikTok video for understanding various musical genres; b) Making TikTok video about understanding the types of traditional musical instruments; c) Making a TikTok video introduction to the pianica instrument; and d) Making TikTok video for pianica skills. It is hoped that the use of learning media by making videos in the TikTok application can help students to understand and accept the music learning process. The making of this video is not fixated on the ideas made by the author. From the four videos making process, both teachers and students can develop them by

making videos that are more creative and better. Making videos on the TikTok application as a learning media can be a support and complement in learning music.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the explanation and discussion above, it can be concluded that the TikTok application can be used properly as a learning media, especially learning about the art of music. With various powerful features and ease of operation, the use and utilization of the TikTok application can be implemented for learning process, especially the art of music. Students will be happier when doing assignments and can understand the material better.

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