

The Impact of the Pandemic on English Language Development at Elementary School

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to find the impact of the pandemic on language development. This research was conducted at SDS Muhammadiyah Pomalaa, Kolaka. The subjects of this study were 5th grade students, where 15 students were used for the diagnostic test instrument and after that the researcher selected 5 students from 15 students who had done the diagnostic test for interviews. The design of this study used a descriptive qualitative research method. Data obtained by Diagnostic test and interview. The results showed that the pandemic had an impact on the low language development of students seen from the diagnostics scores where the average student got a low score and the interview results showed students were enthusiastic about learning in a pandemic.

Keywords: *Impact, Pandemic, Language Development, elementary school.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed various aspects of human life today, especially in the field of education. This requires all elements of education to adapt. According to [5], COVID-19 will revolutionize the way we teach and create the future in four ways. To begin with, all global learning processes, as well as policies, are intertwined. Second, the role of educators in developing teaching practice must be redefined. third, emphasizing the importance of Life Skills in the future, and lastly allowing a wider spectrum of technology to be used to assist education.

In addition, because all schools must be able to adapt to the latest conditions in learning, this is one of the problems of [12] in three major changes in global schooling. first, many people's teaching methods must be changed. Second, during pandemics, new educational solutions are discovered, which can lead to much-needed improvements. Third, there is a worldwide crisis that has been prompted and will continue to induce changes in education-al approaches. In the aspect of learning, of course, there is an impact that occurs especially on a child's language development. Language development is a high-

level cognitive ability where humans use their auditory and vocal capacities to communicate their wants and needs verbally. According to [1] that an individual is born with the tools to master the language and find his own way of working with the language. which can lead to much-needed improvements. Third, there is a worldwide crisis that has been prompted and will continue to induce changes in education-al approaches. In the aspect of learning, of course, there is an impact that occurs especially on a child's language development. Language development is a high-level cognitive ability where humans use their auditory and vocal capacities to communicate their wants and needs verbally. According [1]

high-level cognitive ability in which humans use their auditory and vocal capacities to communicate their wants and needs verbally. Language development is always in line with the development of children. Language is arguably the most important human invention. According to [10]. Good language skills are classified into four categories: listen-ing skills, reading skills, speaking skills, and writing skills. Soenardi's viewpoint is backed up by a number of expert opinions and statistics claiming that knowing a person's language skills is important. that an individual is

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From previous research, the author saw that this condition also occurred in one of the schools in Kolaka, namely SDS Muhammadiyah Pomalaa where, during the pandemic, this school also closed schools and chose online learning so that researchers were interested in conducting research in this place with a focus on seeing the impact pandemic on language development using diagnostic test techniques. According to [3] language is the ability to communicate with others while language development is a high-level cognitive ability in which humans use their auditory and vocal capacities to communicate their wants and needs verbally. Language development is always in line with the development of children. Language is arguably the most important human invention. According to [10] Good language skills are classified into four categories: listening skills, reading skills, speaking skills, and writing skills. Soenardi's viewpoint is backed up by a number of expert opin-ions and statistics claiming that knowing a person's language skills is important.

2. METHODS

This study uses a diagnostic test as the main instrument of data collection, Diagnostic tests are tests that assess a person's cognitive domain to determine what has been achieved and how it relates to learning outcomes. In another sense, the assessment tells the teacher about the competencies that have been mastered or not yet mastered by students, as well as the knowledge that students have before starting to learn. According to [6]. Cognitivism is a process based on the thought process behind the behavior. There was a behavior change and what happened in a leaner mind is observed. Diagnostic tests are used to determine the extent to which students understand the learning carried out during the pandemic. [9] stated a diagnostic test is a test that is used to diagnose student weaknesses and strengths in a particular lesson. [13] states the main diagnostic test is to know your strengths and weaknesses students and provide input to teachers and students to make decisions related to the improvement of the teaching process and the learning process.

This research design is qualitative with a descriptive method. The researcher applies a qualitative design due to the fact the principle cause of this studies is to find the Impact of the pandemic on English language improvement at Kolaka. [2] qualitative research is a researcher developing theoretical perspective on phenomena and problems found in participants. According to [11] qualitative methods are such research used to research on objects which is natural in this case the researcher is a key instrument, technique data collection is done in a way combined, data analysis is inductive, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning more than generalization. By using research instrument diagnostics test and interview [4]. Cognitive diagnostic assessment (CDA) is an important alternative in psychological and educational measures. The diagnostic test was given to 15 grade 5 students with 15 multiple choice questions and 5 essay forms. Next interview. According to [7], an interview is about communication or a conversation between two or more people to get information from each other. In the interview the researcher examined 5 people out of 15 people on the diagnostic test based on their diagnostic value, the interview consisted of 8 questions which were analyzed with the nvivo application.

The diagnostic test used is a question de-signed by an English subject teacher which is then tested to find out the results.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

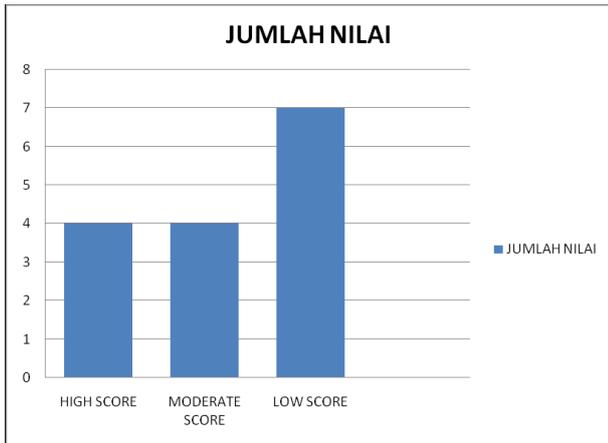


Figure 1. Diagnostic Data

From the diagnostic data above, from the analysis of the diagnostic test, the researcher found that the pandemic had an impact on the low. The researcher found a finding that in the results of this diagnostic test, the low score was in the position with the most students for this score. Then for the moderate score and high score they have the same number of students.

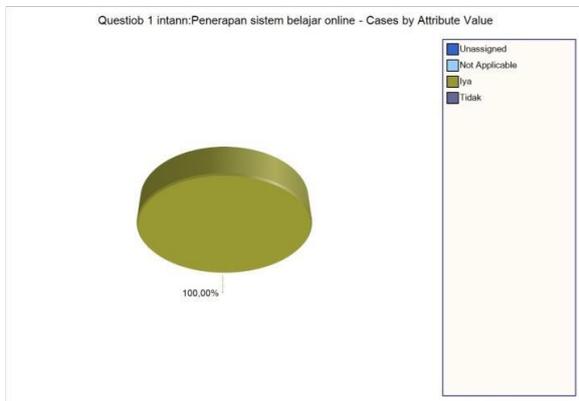


Figure 2. Question 1

Figure 2 shows students' statements about whether their school implements an online learning system. In the chart, we can see the data that all students answered "yes" with a data percentage of 100%.

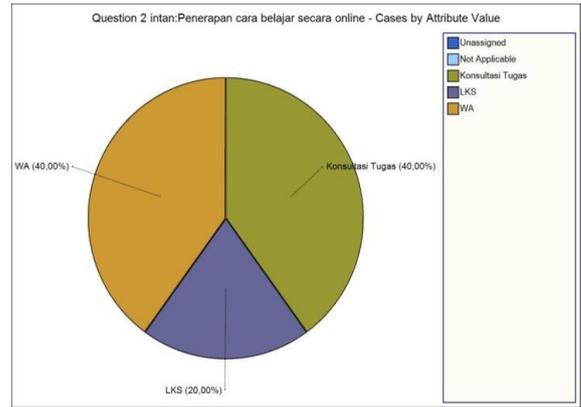


Figure 3. Question 2

Figure 3 shows the findings of student statements about how schools implement online learning systems. The graph shows the data as follows: 40% of students said they used "Step-by-step consultations" then 40% said they used WA, then 20% said they used "Worksheets"

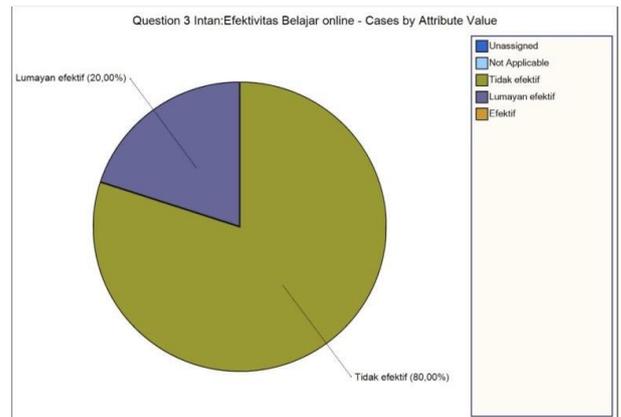


Figure 4. Question 3

Based on Figure 4, we can see data showing student statements about the effectiveness of online learning with the following data: 80% of students feel "ineffective" and 20% feel "quite effective."

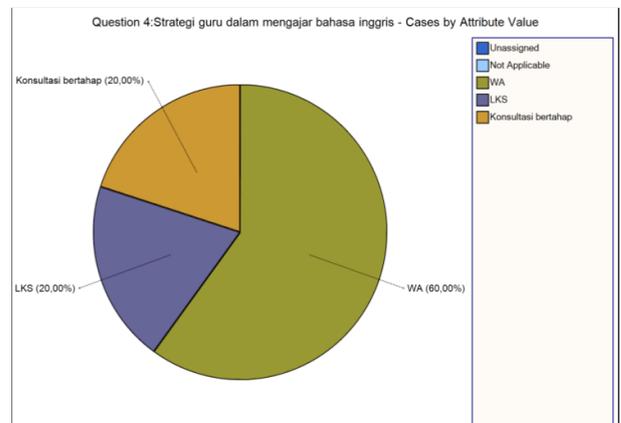


Figure 5. Question 8

Figure 5 found data that provides information about the strategies of their English teachers in helping to improve student's language

development, with the following data: 60% stated that teachers use "Whatsapp", 20% stated that they used "worksheets" and 20% stated that they were using "step-by-step consultations".

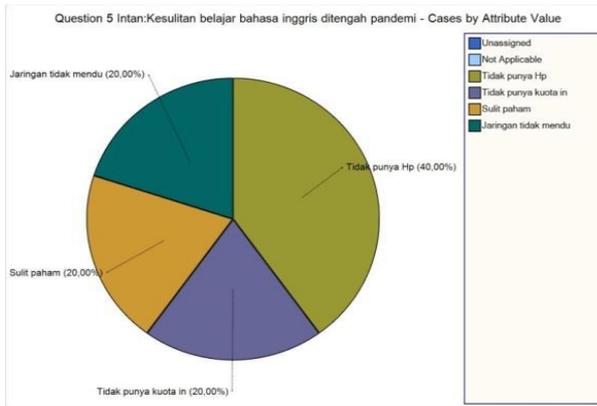


Figure 6: Question 3

Figure 6 found data that provides information about any difficulties encountered when studying online during a pandemic with the following data: 40% stated that they did not have a mobile phone, as many as 20% did not have an internet quota, 20%, then 20% stated that the network did not support and 20% stated that it was difficult to understand the material.

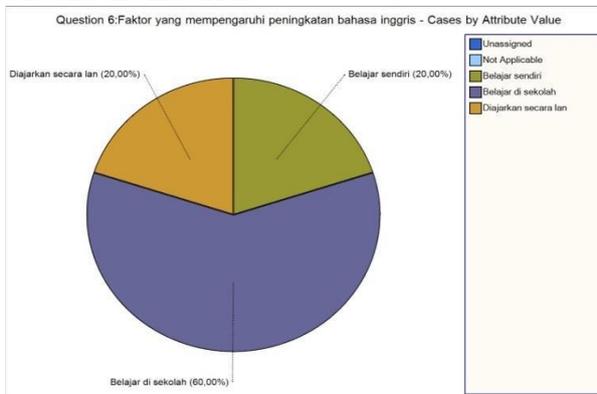


Figure 7. Question 6

Based on Figure 7, we can see data that shows student statements about the factors that influence the improvement of English with the following data: 60% of students answered "study at school", then 20% answered "study directly" and 20% answered "study on their own."

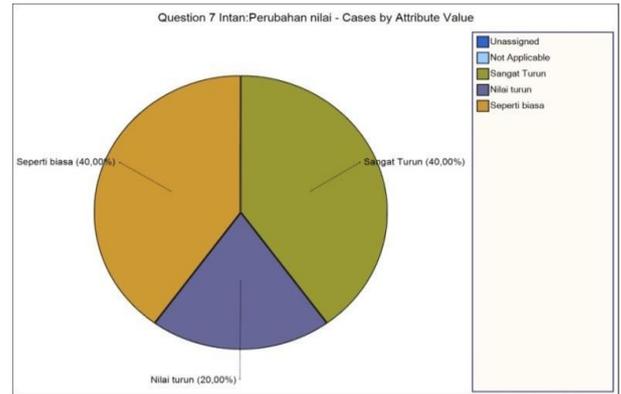


Figure 8. Question 7

Based on Figure 8, we can see data that shows student statements about changes in their grades when studying online with the following data: 40% of students answered "very low", then 40% answered "scores dropped" and 20% answered, "As usual".

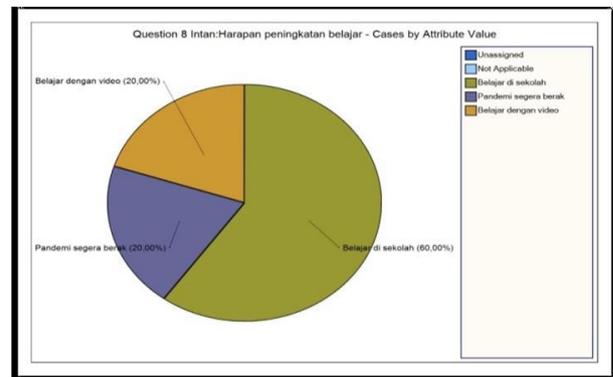


Figure 9. Question

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

The findings of this study are expected to be very important information in learning English. First, this research is expected to be a benchmark for the success of the methods used by teachers, and secondly, teachers are expected to have a learning strategy that can be better than the previous method to improve students' language development.

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