



PowerPoint Presentation in Learning and Teaching of Music History

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Abstract. This research is an analysis of articles that review about PowerPoint media in teaching and learning activities, and then discusses its application in learning music history. To make history subject more appealing for students, more creativity from educators is needed in presenting the material. In today's digitalization era, modern media can be used as learning tool so that learning can be more meaningful, such as the use of PowerPoint media. Three advantages of PowerPoint media that can be used in music history learning were found, namely: (i) variety and completeness of features, (ii) effectiveness and efficiency of teaching and learning processes, and (iii) environmental friendliness. In its application, PowerPoint is very effective and effective as a tool to present material about the history of the 1930's jazz piece, "Sunny Side of the Street".

Keywords: PowerPoint Media · History Learning · Music History

1 Introduction

History is an indispensable subject for education. Studying history may increase appreciation in seeing past events and analyze how such events lead to today's human behaviour and civilization. Regulation of the Minister of National Education (Permendiknas) No. 22 of 2006 concerning Content Standards for Elementary and Secondary Education Units stipulates that knowledge of the past contains wisdom values that are used to train intelligence, shape attitudes, and personality of students.

Unfortunately, history is one of the topics that students are less interested in. Anderson and Krathwohl stated that "This is our personal experience, that students in studying history can feel bored, because there is no personal connection between students and the topic" [1]. Therefore, the use of media can be a good solution for educators.

There are many media that can be used today, but in studying the history of music, effective media is needed in adding learning materials. This is necessary because in studying the history of music we cannot only learn by memorizing texts, but we also have to study the musical aspects, such as listening to audio works, viewing concert videos of the material discussed, and viewing photos of the material discussed so that students gain a better sense about the meaning and characteristics of the material being studied. Burkholder states in his journal "Those who study the history of music in detail,

they will perform or teach music much better. Besides, they will make watching music livelier and more meaningful” [2].

In an era that has developed as it is today, educators can provide music history lessons to students in a more meaningful and interesting way, such as taking them to a museum or watching a music concert related to the subject matter. The goal is that students do not rely on history books only as a tool for them to understand history. But activities like those would take a lot of time and effort. Also, not all groups of students can afford to pay for such activities.

Modern media can activate direct observation activities only by using laptops, computers and the internet owned by schools or educators. However, without software as a complementary medium, these modern media cannot work properly. The existence of software can help modern media such as laptops, computers and the internet to be maximized, so there is no need to give a lot of time, effort and money in learning music history to students. In addition, by utilizing modern media, educators will improve their own teaching quality in parallel. This is proven when educators succeed in introducing, showing and utilizing modern media tools for teaching and learning activities.

Microsoft Powerpoint or hereafter we will briefly become PPT is a technology that is made to be multimedia. PPT is a popular presentation application program and is most widely used for various presentation purposes, such as: in teaching and learning, product presentations, seminars that have visual and audio facilities that can be included in the presentations displayed. Based on the rules of learning, PPT increases the level of high learning outcomes, strongly supported by the use of learning media. Through potential, the senses of students can be accommodated so that learning levels will increase [3]. Therefore, this article will discuss a software that can be used as a medium for delivering music history learning materials, namely Microsoft Powerpoint.

2 Research Methods

This research is content analysis research, and the research from the data presented in the form of articles that discuss the benefits of PPT media in learning. And discusses the application of its function in learning the history of music.

3 Analysis and Discussion

3.1 Variety and Completeness of Features of the PPT

PPT is very useful as a medium that can display all learning information in full, whether written, visual, or visual audio. In line with the statement of Atang Gunawan PPT is an application program to create or process presentation data [4]. Presentation data that can be made in the form of text, tables, graphics, images, organizational charts, and visual audio/video.” Nurseto also argues in his research that PPT is a software specially designed to be able to display multimedia programs in an attractive manner, easy to manufacture, easy to use and relatively inexpensive...” [5]. The advantage of being able to display a variety of images and writing for presentations will make it easier for teachers

to attract students' attention. By including interesting teaching materials in their presentations such as: pictures, photos, videos, audio and even video-audios so that students will more easily absorb teaching and experience learning experiences that are different from usual. Students learn more effectively when the material is delivered using various visual aids. In addition, they stated that teachers found presentations through PPT made the material more interesting and helped them attract students' attention. Stated by Jadhav in his journal "Study Effectiveness of teaching by using powerpoint presentation and student response" PPT is a powerful and easy-to-use presentation graphics software program that allows you to create professional-looking electronic slideshows. Powerpoint presentations are used to present information in an organized manner to individuals or groups [6]. Using clip art, sound clips, video clips, graphics, org charts, imported web screens, and many other features, you can easily create presentations that will impress your audience and convey your message clearly and professionally." From all the references above, it can be seen that educators who use PPT can take advantage of the features in PPT to be used as a tool for delivering learning materials.

PPT has abundant features that the traditional textbook doesn't. In addition to the usual graphic, picture, text, and diagrams, the PowerPoint offers videos, audio, music, animations, colour templates, slideshows, and many more. This increases the interests of students much more and gives the student a better experience in learning unfamiliar subjects. This is important in learning the history of music, especially when exhibiting different types of music throughout history, for example in classical music and their important eras.

3.2 Effectiveness and Efficiency

Effective and efficient learning will really help students to absorb lessons very well. This is in line with the statements of Jones and Sirazi quoted by Jadhav in their article stating "Powerpoint/PPT presentations are excellent learning media and the key to facilitating an effective teaching and learning process [7]. "PPT is an excellent tool to improve the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process" [8]. In the results of research conducted by Jadhav for 1 month at Godavari Manar Public School Shankarnagar Tq. Biloli Dist. Naden, in grade 7 students with a total of 20 students, Jadhav stated, the use of PPT in teaching is very effective in increasing students' acceptance of the knowledge taught by the teacher. In addition, student responses to teachers have improved much better. Another study also stated the same thing, Corbeil in his journal expressed that "Students who are exposed to PPT presentations prefer learning activities, compared to textbooks".

Corbeil also states that "Students learn more effectively when their attention is focused on highlights, colors, various fonts, and visual effects." This statement shows that PPT is very interesting, useful and effective in attracting students' attention in teaching and learning activities. Stepp-Greany notes in his research that "the use of technology in the classroom generally has a number of advantages for students, including increased motivation, increased self-concept, mastery of basic skills, and increased engagement in the learning process." From several studies of scientific writings, it was found that the effectiveness and efficiency of PPT had positive impacts for both teachers and students.

These results can be used as a positive consideration for educators to use PPT as a good teaching tool, especially in music history lessons.

With the many features in PowerPoint application, students will receive a more comprehensive information when the educator uses photos, videos, and audio. They will get a better sense of the music during a certain period when being presented with the culture and sound of that time. This is what the traditional textbook lacks, and why the PowerPoint application is time-efficient. In terms of effectiveness, the PowerPoint is able to translate complex ideas, facts, or figures into easily digestible visuals. It can also present interactive slides which makes students explore the subject.

3.3 Environmentally Friendly

In the midst of the increasingly widespread issue of protecting the environment, PPT may contribute by reducing paper production as it can damage the surrounding environment. Research by Asi and Busch states “the massive use of paper in Buea, has a number of adverse effects on the surrounding environment known as paper pollution. “PPT can be used as one of the supporting media. In line with Ananda’s statement, Gramedia.blog. Microsoft Power Point can help the role of protecting the environment, because paper production is minimal.” This is because PPT is software that can be presented via a laptop or computer in presenting student teaching materials. The environmental issue has become more and more important, and it is crucial that we implement this in our daily lives, even in class. The use of PowerPoint saves so much paper that would be printed [9].

3.4 Room for Improvement

Behind all the advantages of Microsoft PowerPoint there are also disadvantages of PPT which were revealed by the researchers. The adverse effects of PPT in which students’ test results decline from the scores set by Bartsch and Cobern and Shallcross and Harrison. Students who received teaching through PPT performed worse but showed strong will. From these studies, it can be concluded that PPT still requires teaching methods and supervision from the teachers that can bring a more interesting and interactive atmosphere. On the other hand, educators must also ensure that good and good visual presentations are not enough, without educators stepping in to ensure that every student understands the learning material.

3.5 Application

To implement this theory, a teacher may use PPT to teach about the history of a famous jazz standard by Jimmy Hugh titled “On the Sunny Side of a Street”. This song was popular since the 1930s and even until now, it has become a distinguished artistical work especially in the jazz scene. In explaining this material, the teacher may present pictures, textual information, the photo of the composer, and the audio of this song so that students learn directly about the material (Fig. 1). Example of the image:

From this picture, PPT may be useful in maintaining students’ attention using visuals filled with historical contents which will be discussed. The advantages of PPT include

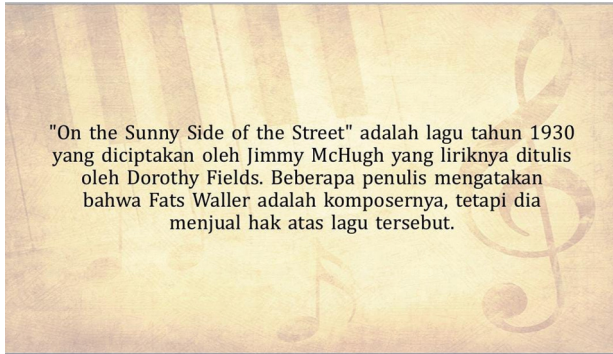


Fig. 1. Sample of Power Point Slide Containing Historical Contents.

giving visuals that are more appealing than just a writing on a blackboard or a traditional textbook (Fig. 2).

In 1.2, PPT can aid teachers to display the photographs of the composers and simultaneously give a brief description of the composer and its influence to the musical world.

In the last slide (Fig. 3), teachers are aided in presenting the video that includes the original audio of the song that is currently being discussed and taught. This will help



Fig. 2. Sample of Power Point Containing Photo and Biography.



Fig. 3. Sample of Power Point Containing Audio and Video.

students to know more about the object of the music itself as well its history. Playing the video will also give students a musical experience in learning music history.

4 Conclusion

To make history subjects more interesting for students, more creativity from educators is needed in presenting the material. Along with today’s digitalization era, modern media can be used as a tool to support history learning so that learning can be more meaningful, such as the use of PowerPoint media. Having a complete, effective, and efficient PPT feature can have a lot of good impacts in education. In addition, PPT can help protect the environment, because paper production is minimal. Although there are studies that state the weakness of PPT which can have a detrimental impact on student test results that decrease in value, PPT can be a valuable solution in education.

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