Utilizing *Speechnotes* on Smartphone to Improve Student's Creative Writing Skills

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Abstract. In the digital era like today, the benefit of various applications on a smart phone can improve student skills, especially creative writing. One of the applications is *Speechnotes,* a natural language modeling system that can convert audio into text. The method used in this study is a qualitative research method, with the research subject being a student of the Indonesian Language Education Study Program, the State Islamic Institute (IAIN) Curup. The finding shows that *Speechnotes* can facilitate and encourage students in language skills, especially writing skills. In addition, to speaking skills, when using speech notes, it is easier for students to improve their speaking skills. Thus, speaking and writing skills are closely related to the benefit of this application. To write uniquely and creatively according to their respective ideas, they must prepare the sentences so they can be processed effectively in this application and produce maximum writing correctly. So, the benefit of *Speechnotes* can improve students' creative writing skills .

Keywords: Creative Writing Skills · Speechnotes · Smartphone

1 Introduction

In the 5.0 era, high competition in various sectors is directly concerned with community needs. Nowadays people require to coexist with technology, control it, and harness it well. Especially for millennials, like students who need technology to facilitate all their activities [1]. Surely it cannot be separated from communication and interaction, where it is more likely to be directly related to a language.

Language is one of the most important elements in human interaction. It is a system of arbitrary sound symbols used by members of social groups to work together, communicate, and identify themselves [2]. Interaction can be done with language media, as well as language can change dynamically because of its use in the community. Language is a communication tool that is used orally and in writing. Language is an inseparable element in daily life [3].

Technological developments will also affect the development of languages in society, one of which is language variations [4]. Language variation is the ways or vocabularies of different speakers express something through language [5]. The times, the wider the variety of human language developments. It can be influenced by various factors, ranging from the place, environment, region, or a certain area. So indirectly the social environment affects the variation of human language. These language variations make people increasingly need application systems that make it easier to implement language in everyday life [6].

One application that can make it easier for humans to implement their language is speech notes. Speechnotes is a powerful speech-enabled online notepad, designed to empower your ideas by implementing a clean and efficient design, so you can focus on your thoughts. Speechnotes is an online notebook used when speaking actively, designed to empower ideas by implementing an efficient design, making it easier to express thoughts [7].

This speechnotes application is an application that is almost the same as text to speech which defines as the process of converting text into digital and spoken audio. It can be in the form of sending digital audio to a computer loudspeaker or storing the results of the conversion [8]. The text-to-speech application use to convert writing or text into speech which is carried out sequentially with text input and produces speech using natural human language modelling [9]. The different these two applications is the conversion process. Speechnotes convert spoken language into text or written form. Another android-based application almost similar to speechnotes is the Google speech API or Google voice which was launched in 2008 in the United States for several types of smart phones [10].

Speechnotes is a framework developed by Google to recognize a voice, convert it into text and enter it into the Google search page so that voice input search results appear [11]. Speechnotes is an application on the Google Play Store. Google Play (n.d.) describes "Speechnotes as a combination to convert speech or audio into text format and text into speech or say voice note. This app provides a helping hand for those who want to ease their writing work." It explains that these speech notes are a combination of speech or audio converted into text format and text into speech or voice notes [12]. This application creates to help facilitate writing work so it can save time.

Speechnotes is an application created by Well Source to make easier in learning pronouncing the word from oral language to written language easily, quickly, and efficiently and has writing accuracy comparable to high pronunciation [13]. The benefit of this application makes us easier to learn the pronunciation of words, from spoken to written language easily, quickly, efficiently, and accurately.

In this application, students require to pronounce a language well and efficiently because this system can only detect standard language with clear pronunciation and intonation. In this process, students indirectly hone their creative writing skills when implementing sound, which has become a note or text to be developed into effective and complete writing.

In the use of speechnotes, there are several stages that we must know, and these stages can be detailed as follows (Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5);

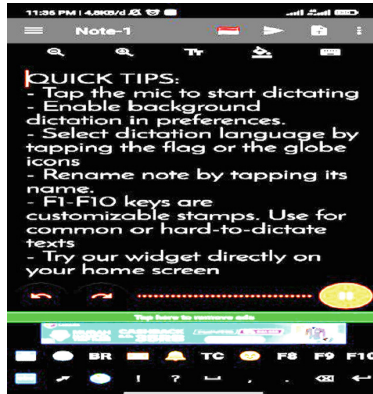1. Download the speechnotes application on the mobile play store.

Fig. 1. Initial view

2. After downloading and installing, change the language settings on the speech notes application system from English to Indonesian by looking for the globe icon in the lower left corner (just click on it).
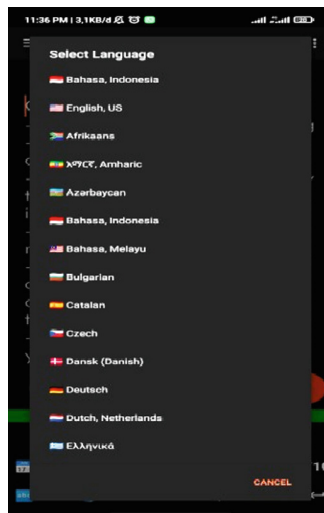

Fig. 2. Language Selection

3. After changing the language, then click the microphone (the orange microphone image) in the lower right corner and the application is ready to receive the voice and convert it to text.
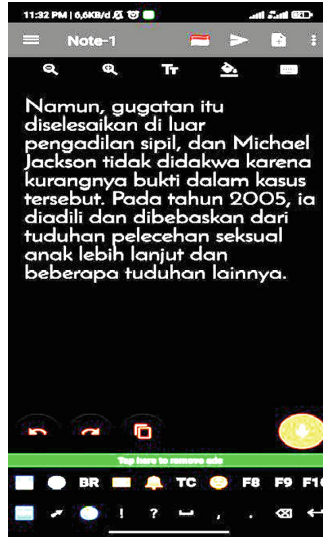
Fig. 3. Recording

4. When finished, it can be saved with the name of the document as needed by clicking the three line icon in the upper left corner tobring up the menu or click the save sign in the upper right corner.
5. To get maximum results, the device must be used at close range and not in crowded or noisy conditions.

In addition, some disadvantages of this application are; improper placement of capital letters, not being able to provide punctuation automatically, so you have to add your own or re-edit, and not all speech is detected by the application, especially if the atmosphere during recording is quite crowded, then this application will translate itself. So, it shows how much the use of this application improving the student's creative writing skills, especially students of Indonesian Language Tadris at the State Islamic Institute (IAIN CURUP).

2   Methods

This study uses a qualitative descriptive research method to describe the use of speech notes on android to improve students' creative writing skills. The technique used in this research is observation, data analysis, and questionnaires. Observation is a technique for collecting data by direct observation in the field [14]. In this study, direct observations to students of Indonesian Language Tadris Semester 5 by giving a questionnaire containing questions that show a result that can be analyzed in the data.

3   Results and Discussion

This research use observations and questionnaires of thirty-six students as a data collection technique. Observations made by observing direct research activities related to creative writing skills. This study resulted in a description or explanation of the use of the speech notes application in improving students' creative writing skills. Students are introduced first to the speech notes application for the data collection on creative writing skills research. The results of observations are analysed to conclude the results of the study.

Data Analysis

In this study, observations were carried out to determine the use of speech notes in creative writing skills research. It aims to obtain detailed explanations regarding the use of the speech notes application. Furthermore, finding student responses to benefit of speech notes is carried out by filling out a questionnaire through a Google form. It aims to understand the response and student satisfaction level as a medium for learning creative writing skills. The Questionnaires were distributed to all samples of 36 students. The scale used to measure the level of student satisfaction with the use of speech notes is the Likert Scale. Where in the Likert Scale there are five options, Strongly Agree (SS) with a score of 5, Agree (S) with a score of 4, Enough (C) with a score of 3, Disagree (TS) with a score of 2, Strongly Disagree (STS) with a score of 1. The four indicators can measure the level of satisfaction of each student with the use of the speech notes application. Each student can give a different response starting from positive to negative. Analysis of the resulting data is as follows.

1) **Use of Speech notes**

The Utilization of speech notes application in creative writing skills research is carried out through two series of activities; orientation and implementation. At the introduction stage, students are first introduced and asked to download the speech notes application to understand how to use and utilize it in research activities. Then, in the implementation activities, observations were carried out with the help of the speech notes application in data collection activities. The results of the analysis of the two activities are as follows.

a. **Introductory Activities (Orientation)**
1. In the orientation activity, the lecturer introduces the speech notes application to students by presenting the application through LCD.
2. After students recognize and understand how to use the speech notes application, the lecturer explains the function of the speech notes application in creative writing skills research. The function of this application is as a sound recorder which then produces text as a form of written data. So, it can make students easier to write as well as practice speaking skills.
3. Then, students are asked to download the speech notes application through the Google Play Store, which is available on every android phone.
4. After the speech notes application has been successfully downloaded, the lecturer explains the form of directions to students on how to use the Speech notes application.

5. Finally, students allow asking questions about the speech notes application, its functions, and how to use it. Then, students are allowed to try using the Speech notes application as a form of simulation before entering the implementation activities.

b. **Implementation activities**

In this activity, students are asked to conduct research using observational techniques to obtain data in written text as analysis material. Observation is a method of collecting data using direct or indirect observations [15]. Observations are carried out systematically by following several stages. In the first stage, students prepare speech notes applications for use in research. Then, students make voice recordings with the speech notes application, where the voice recordings contain creative ideas and ideas from each student. In the next stage, the results from the voice recording copy into a written form or word document. Then, the document is collected by the lecturer concerned. In the last stage, the lecturer evaluates the content of the student's creative writing to be used as analysis material in understanding the use of the speech notes application to channel speaking skills in issuing ideas to support students' creative writing skills.
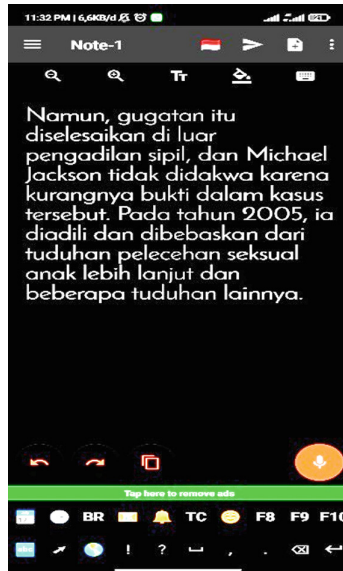

Fig. 4. Observation Results 1

Based on the picture above, the observation made by one of the male students is recorded in the application. The results of these observations are in the form of written data about end-time illustrations based on their ideas, which can be analysed as research on creative writing skills. Although there are some shortcomings in the resulting writing, the speech notes application provides a solution with available keyboard features to correct writing or reading errors. Thus, researchers can revise the results of text that are still wrong before being used as research material for creative writing skills.

Fig. 5. Observation Results 2

Based on the results of subsequent interviews with a sample of one of the female students, it appears that the results of the conversion from voice recordings to writing have been carried out using the speech notes application. The writings in the speech notes application are important data in creative writing skills research. As shown in the picture above, the speech notes application has been able to record the results of oral speech well in one of the female students. In addition, there are still obstacles in the speech notes application, such as not being able to record explanations that are too fast and the use of every day and regional languages.

Student's Response
The instrument used to gain knowledge about student responses can be done by using a questionnaire containing ten questions to measure student responses this application in creative writing skills research.

The questionnaire is submitted to students is in the form of a Likert Scale. It has five alternative answers that can be chosen, including (a) Strongly Agree with a score of 5; (b) Agree with a score of 4; (c) Enough with a score of 3; (d) Disagree with a score of 2; and (e) Strongly Disagree with a score of 1.

The Percentage of each question regarding student responses to this application in creative writing skills research. The average answer was 27.7% for the Strongly Agree (SS) category, 58.33% for the Agree (S) category, and 13.8% for the Disagree (TS) category.

Utilizing speechnotes application in creative writing skills research can be a medium for data collection. Speechnotes can help students because they use technology, cell phones. Mobile is an electronic device that is practical and loved by all circles of society because it can facilitate all aspects of life, especially for students.

The result from observations and questionnaires from 36 students is regarding the response to the speechnotes application in researching students' creative writing skills. The introduction to the speechnotes application was carried out during the lecture process and tested in the classroom.

Then, students do independent observations of their inner speaking skills and understand the usefulness of speechnotes applications in creative writing skills research. The results of the questionnaire were analyzed, described, and presented to formulate a conclusion. 36 respondents are students of Indonesian Language Class A and B. Assessment of the results of the questionnaire using a Likert Scale illustrates that the average respondent gives a positive response to the application of speech notes in creative writing skills research.

Of the 36 respondents (students in semester 5) regarding research on creative writing skills, there were 27.7% or 10 respondents (students) answered strongly agree while 58.33% or 21 respondents (students) answered agree. Of course, both are positive responses.

Creative writing skills among students are indeed interesting to study. As revealed by respondents 85% or 31 people gave a positive response with answers strongly agree and agree. Furthermore, 17 students agreed, and six students strongly agreed that they were still accustomed to using note-taking and writing techniques as well as manual typing for the development of creative writing skills. While as many as three students responded fairly and the remaining ten students answered disagree.

Then, 12 students responded strongly agreed that using speech notes was a new experience. Meanwhile, 22 students respond agree, while 2 students respond disagree. Then, as many as 27 students responded agreeing, and nine students responded and disagreed with the statement that in research creative writing skills are still effective using observation techniques.

For the benefit of the speechnotes application as a recommendation from the lecturer, 30 students answered agree, while six students answered disagree. Furthermore, all students or a total of 36 students responded agreeing to the statement that the speechnotes application is used in class in the implementation of creative writing skills. Speechnotes are considered to be a tool for students speaking skills in researching students' creative writing skills. For this statement, as many as 14 students responded agreeably, and 18 students gave a sufficient response. Meanwhile, other students gave a response that did not agree.

Information that speech notes are not optimal in writing capital letters and punctuation marks. For this statement, as many as 24 students gave an agreed response and the remaining 8 responded strongly agree, and 4 students gave a sufficient response.

A total of 32 students responded that they agreed that speechnotes was an easy and practical application to use. Meanwhile, the remaining 4 students responded strongly agree. Then, speechnotes can translate words into written data. This statement stated agree by 27 students, while 9 students stated that they did not agree with the statement.

Based on the data above, it can be concluded that more the speechnotes application could facilitate students in channeling speaking skills into creative writing skills research. This is due to the convenience and features provided in the speechnotes application. Speechnotes can help in research, especially in creative writing skills. Furthermore,

students are also encouraged to apply speech notes in the future, either in research or in classroom learning. Speechnotes application is very effectively used to transcribe voice recordings into a written data form. The use of the speechnotes application is considered easier than having to manually type every idea, idea, and imagination of students. However, in the use of speechnotes applications in research on creative writing skills, students found several difficulties. The speechnotes application cannot read voice recordings at a very fast pitch. In addition, speechnotes are also only able to read standard than half of the respondents who responded agreed that words or according to good and correct Indonesian Spelling. Meanwhile, the languages often used by respondents are mostly mixed with regional languages. The speechnotes application also has weaknesses because it has not been able to apply automatic punctuation marks and the use of capital letters is often incorrect.

4   Conclusions

Speech notes can facilitate and encourage students in language skills, especially writing skills. In addition, to speaking skills, when using speech notes, it is easier for students to improve their speaking skills. Thus, speaking and writing skills are closely related to the benefit of this application.

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