

## Students' Perception of Utilizing Instagram as a Learning Aid in Their Speaking English

Mohammad Saifuddin<sup>1\*</sup>, Muhammad Hifdil Islam<sup>2</sup>, Shofiyatul Hasanah<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup> Universitas Islam Zainul Hasan Genggong, Probolinggo

E-mail: [saifuddin290402@gmail.com](mailto:saifuddin290402@gmail.com)<sup>1\*</sup>, [muhammad.hifdil@gmail.com](mailto:muhammad.hifdil@gmail.com)<sup>2</sup>, [shoffypradipta99@gmail.com](mailto:shoffypradipta99@gmail.com)<sup>3</sup>

### Abstract

This study explores students' perceptions of using Instagram as a learning aid to improve their English speaking skills. Through interviews with students, it was found that Instagram, alongside other social media platforms like YouTube and TikTok, plays a significant role in enhancing speaking proficiency. Students value Instagram for its interactive features, such as stories, live sessions, and language exchange groups, which provide opportunities for direct engagement with native speakers and exposure to diverse speaking styles. Additionally, students appreciate the convenience and accessibility of Instagram, allowing them to practice speaking skills at their own pace. Overall, students perceive Instagram as a valuable tool for language learning, citing its interactive nature, diverse content offerings, and convenience as key factors contributing to their positive learning experiences.

**Keywords:** Instagram, Learning Aid, Speaking English

### INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary era of globalization, marked by unprecedented interconnectedness and rapid advancements across various sectors worldwide, profound transformations have permeated the dynamics of societal interactions and human social life. This global shift has significantly impacted the diffusion and acknowledgment of the English language as a preeminent international medium of communication (Utari et al., 2019). Within the Indonesian Englishwhile still classified as a foreign language, is experiencing continual evolution in terms of its significance and usage patterns. Despite its foreign status, English occupies a prominent position due to its indispensable role in global communication networks. English transcends geographical boundaries, encompassing not only countries within the Inner Circle, such as the UK (United Kingdom) or USA (United State of America), but also extending its influence to regions within the Outer Circle, including Singapore or Malaysia, and beyond to the Expanding Circle, exemplified by Indonesia. Within the Expanding Circle, English serves as a vital tool for international discourse and collaboration, despite lacking formal official status (Supena, 2024). Consequently, the educational landscape in Indonesia is witnessing a paradigm shift in English language instruction methodologies and pedagogical approaches. These adaptations are driven by the imperatives of globalization, with a primary objective of enhancing the linguistic competencies of the populace to effectively engage with and navigate the complexities of an interconnected world.

The digital age, various social media platforms have emerged, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and many others (Anugrahadi, 2019). Among these platforms, Instagram stands out as a popular choice for users worldwide. Founded in 2010, Instagram has become an integral part of modern digital culture, offering a mobile application available for smartphones on both the App Store and Google Play. Instagram serves as a dynamic social network that enables users to share their lives through a collection of images and videos. Since its inception, Instagram has witnessed exponential growth, boasting over 100 million active monthly users. Remarkably, the platform sees approximately 40 million new images uploaded daily, with a staggering 8500 likes generated per second.

Instagram, a popular social media application, derives its name from its core functionalities. The term "Insta" signifies instant, reflecting the app's ability to swiftly share photos (Azzahra et al., 2022).

Meanwhile, "Gram" originates from "Telegram," denoting the rapid transmission of information to others. Thus, Instagram amalgamates these concepts, enabling users to promptly disseminate visual content over the internet. Beyond its nomenclature, Instagram serves multifaceted purposes. Primarily, it facilitates the capture, organization, editing, and sharing of photos, fostering seamless communication among users (Suhaimi et al., 2023). However, beyond its conventional utility, Instagram harbors untapped potential as an educational tool, particularly in language learning. Indeed, Instagram offers a novel avenue for students to enhance their linguistic prowess. Through its diverse features, learners can immerse themselves in an interactive environment conducive to language practice. Notably, several Instagram features play a pivotal role in honing language skills. One such feature is "Reels," which enables users to create short, 15 or 30-second videos adorned with audio, effects, and creative tools. These bite-sized clips provide a dynamic platform for language learners to showcase their proficiency and creativity. Moreover, Instagram Television (IGTV) expands on this functionality, offering an avenue for users to share educational content, thereby enriching the learning experience. Additionally, "InstaStory" empowers users to share ephemeral photos or videos adorned with filters, text, and stickers. This feature not only enhances self-expression but also fosters community engagement, as users interact with one another's stories (Malik & Nurhadi, 2023). Furthermore, the comment section under posts serves as a forum for linguistic exchange, enabling learners to engage in meaningful conversations and receive constructive feedback. In essence, Instagram transcends its conventional role as a social networking platform, emerging as a dynamic tool for language learning. By leveraging its diverse features, students can embark on a journey of linguistic exploration and skill development. Through proactive engagement with Instagram's interactive interface, learners can navigate the intricacies of language acquisition, fostering fluency and proficiency in English.

The platform offers a plethora of features for users to explore and utilize. Users can capture and upload photos or videos accompanied by captions and hashtags (Situmorang & Hayati, 2023). Additionally, they can tag friends and add location information to their posts. The "Search" feature allows users to discover people or hashtags they wish to follow, enhancing their overall experience on the platform. In recent years, Instagram has introduced new features to enhance user engagement and interaction. These include the "Your Story" feature and "IG TV." "Your Story" allows users to share ephemeral content that disappears after 24 hours, providing a glimpse into their daily lives. Meanwhile, "IG TV" enables users to upload longer-form videos compared to the "Your Story" feature (Datubara & Irwansyah, 2019).

Recognizing the importance of English language proficiency in today's globalized world, particularly amidst the rapid advancements in technology, learning and improving English skills hold significant relevance for students, especially those majoring in English Literature (Qashmal & Ahmadi, 2015). The diverse features offered by Instagram, such as posts, stories, comments, IG TV, and direct messages, present valuable opportunities for English language learners to practice and enhance their language abilities. Considering the potential impact of Instagram on English language learning among students majoring in English Literature, it becomes essential to explore their perceptions and experiences. As Gibson et al. (2009:94) suggest, perceptions are subjective interpretations of one's environment, influenced by various factors. Hence, the authors aim to conduct a study titled "Students' Perceptions of the Impact of Instagram Usage on English Language Learning." Through this research, the author seeks to motivate and assist readers in leveraging Instagram as a tool for enhancing their English language learning journey.

## **Perception**

The concept of perception derives from various linguistic and psychological origins, each offering nuanced definitions. Etymologically, perception originates from the Latin word "perceptio," meaning acceptance (Nurciana Nasaruddin & Hasbullah Abu Kassim, 2017). In psychology, perception

encompasses the process of apprehending or recognizing objective events through sensory faculties and organic awareness, often coupled with experiential intuition regarding truth or belief. Alternatively, Leavitt characterizes perception as the act of seeing, the mechanism by which individuals visually interpret stimuli. Moreover, perception can be understood as one's viewpoint or interpretation of stimuli, reflecting individual understanding and comprehension.

*James Rowland Angel delves into perception as the consciousness of specific material entities present to the senses, emphasizing the subjective awareness of sensory input. According to Stephen P. Robbins, perception is the cognitive process through which individuals organize and interpret sensory impressions to imbue their environment with meaning. These varied perspectives converge to underscore perception as the capacity to assign significance to sensory input, influenced by individual experiences and environmental factors.*

It is essential to note that perceptions are inherently subjective and can vary widely among individuals.

*Altman underscores this subjectivity by defining perception as the selective processing of stimuli based on an individual's reality construct. This highlights the role of stimuli in shaping perception, with external and internal factors contributing to the formation of individual perspectives. Despite receiving identical stimuli, individuals may perceive them differently due to variations in experience, cognitive processes, and expectations, underscoring the personal nature of perception. Drawing from Gibson's theory, perception involves the complex process of attributing meaning to the environment, encompassing the selection, organization, and interpretation of stimuli to influence behavior and attitudes. This multifaceted understanding elucidates perception as a dynamic and individualized cognitive process shaped by internal and external factors, ultimately informing how individuals interact with and interpret the world around them.*

## **Social Media**

In contemporary society, the pervasive influence of social media is undeniable, as it plays a pivotal role in facilitating a myriad of activities for individuals worldwide (Bowo et al., 2023). From remote communication to commercial transactions, from accessing real-time information to promoting products, from entertainment to knowledge exchange, social media has become an indispensable part of daily life. Consequently, experts have offered diverse perspectives and definitions of social media to capture its multifaceted nature.

*According to Kaplan and Haenlein, social media serves as a versatile medium utilized across various electronic devices, including smartphones, computers, tablets, and other emerging technologies. This expansive accessibility enables individuals to seamlessly share ideas and communicate with one another in a rapid and organized manner. Primarily employed for communication and awareness purposes globally, social media acts as a conduit for disseminating the latest data, files, images, videos, as well as innovative concepts and proposals within online communities. Thus, it empowers users to swiftly exchange information with a global audience.*

Furthermore,

*Yadav emphasizes the role of social media in simplifying communication processes by facilitating the widespread distribution of diverse content to online groups and networks. By fostering seamless interactions and knowledge-sharing among users, social media platforms enable individuals to stay connected and informed about the latest developments across various*

*domains. This seamless dissemination of information enhances collaboration and connectivity on a global scale, transcending geographical boundaries.*

Moreover,

*Van Dijk, as cited in Setiadi, characterizes social media as a user-centric media platform that prioritizes user engagement and collaboration. By emphasizing user participation and interaction, social media platforms serve as invaluable tools for strengthening interpersonal relationships and fostering social ties. Through its user-driven design and functionality, social media facilitates enhanced connectivity and collaboration among individuals, thereby enriching social interactions and community engagement. In essence, social media represents a dynamic and multifaceted medium that transcends traditional communication boundaries, empowering individuals to connect, share, and collaborate in unprecedented ways. As a ubiquitous aspect of modern life, social media continues to shape and redefine the dynamics of interpersonal communication and societal interaction on a global scale.*

The theories presented by

*Meike and Young, as well as Boyd & Ellison, offer insightful perspectives on the multifaceted nature of social media, emphasizing its dual role in facilitating both private and public communication. Meike and Young posit that social media serves as a hybrid platform, bridging the gap between private interactions, where information is exchanged between individuals, and public discourse, where information is disseminated to a broader audience without individual distinctions. This conceptualization highlights the versatility of social media as a medium that accommodates various modes of communication, ranging from intimate exchanges to public broadcasts.*

Expanding on this notion,

*Boyd & Ellison provide a more comprehensive definition of social media by identifying key features and functionalities that characterize such platforms. They define social media as websites or web-based programs that enable users to create profiles, establish relationships, and engage in diverse forms of interaction, including sharing content, forming groups, participating in chats, and curating personal profiles. By encompassing a wide range of online activities and functionalities, this definition underscores the dynamic and interactive nature of social media platforms, which serve as virtual spaces for socialization, collaboration, and self-expression. Building upon these theoretical frameworks, Ahmad Setiadi highlights the significance of social media in contemporary communication practices, particularly its role in enhancing interpersonal connectivity and facilitating information exchange. Setiadi emphasizes the transformative impact of social media on communication dynamics, noting its ability to transcend traditional boundaries and democratize the creation and dissemination of content. Furthermore, Setiadi underscores the importance of user-generated content (UGC) in driving engagement and fostering community participation within social media platforms.*

Unlike traditional mass media, where content is predominantly created and controlled by editors, social media empowers users to generate and share content autonomously, thereby democratizing the production and distribution of information.

*Moreover, Boyd, as cited in Setiadi's work, emphasizes the interactive and collaborative nature of social media, highlighting its role as a platform for collective engagement and participation. By enabling users and groups to interact, communicate, and collaborate, social media platforms*

*facilitate the co-creation of content and the formation of online communities. This participatory culture, characterized by user-generated content and collaborative interactions, distinguishes social media from traditional media channels and underscores its potential as a transformative force in contemporary communication practices.*

## Instagram

The concept of utilizing Instagram's features, such as Reels, to foster a cooperative and collaborative learning environment among students is an intriguing proposition in the realm of education (Vitasari & Hasanudin, 2022). Reels, a relatively new feature introduced by Instagram, allows users to create short, engaging videos set to music or audio clips. While Reels are primarily known for their entertainment value and creative expression, their potential application in educational settings is worth exploring.

*In the Erarslan's perspective, Reels can serve as a dynamic tool for students to collaborate and share knowledge within a formal classroom setting. By leveraging the features offered by Reels, such as the ability to create and share short video clips, students can enhance their learning experience by actively engaging with course materials and exchanging ideas with their peers. For example, students may use Reels to create educational content related to course topics, summarizing key concepts or demonstrating problem-solving techniques in a visually engaging format.*

Moreover, Reels can facilitate collaborative learning activities by encouraging students to work together on creative projects or presentations (Thahir & Wahyuni, 2023). By collaborating on Reels videos, students can leverage their collective skills and expertise to produce multimedia content that reflects their understanding of course material. Additionally, Reels' interactive features, such as the ability to add text overlays, stickers, and filters, offer students creative freedom to express themselves and communicate complex ideas in innovative ways. Furthermore, Reels can serve as a platform for students to engage in meaningful discussions and exchange feedback on academic content. Through comments and replies on Reels videos, students can provide peer-to-peer feedback, share additional resources, and pose questions for further exploration. This collaborative approach to learning fosters a sense of community and camaraderie among students, enhancing their overall learning experience.

*Instagram Reels is a feature within the Instagram social media platform that allows users to create and share short videos with a maximum duration of 30 seconds. This feature enables users to add music, creative effects, and text to their videos, similar to other platforms like TikTok. Instagram Reels provides a platform for users to express their creativity in engaging and interactive ways. In terms of creativity and self-expression, Instagram Reels offers users the opportunity to showcase their creative talents through the creation of short-form videos. Features such as music, filters, and creative effects empower users to produce unique and captivating content. Moreover, Instagram Reels has implications for learning and education. In an educational, Reels can be utilized as a tool to enhance student engagement and facilitate creative learning. Educators can leverage Reels to deliver instructional content in compelling and interactive formats, as well as assign creative tasks to students to create Reels on specific topics. Furthermore, Instagram Reels has social influence potential. Viral or popular content on Reels can influence trends and popular culture, as well as shape users' views and attitudes towards various issues. Lastly, in business applications, Instagram Reels serves as an effective tool for marketing and promotion. Businesses can utilize Reels to introduce their products, provide tutorials, or share brand stories in engaging and shareable formats.*

The concept of perception derives from various linguistic and psychological origins, each offering

nuanced definitions. Etymologically, perception originates from the Latin word "perceptio," meaning acceptance. In psychology, perception encompasses the process of apprehending or recognizing objective events through sensory faculties and organic awareness, often coupled with experiential intuition regarding truth or belief. Alternatively, Leavitt characterizes perception as the act of seeing, the mechanism by which individuals visually interpret stimuli. Moreover, perception can be understood as one's viewpoint or interpretation of stimuli, reflecting individual understanding and comprehension.

*James Rowland Angel delves into perception as the consciousness of specific material entities present to the senses, emphasizing the subjective awareness of sensory input. According to Stephen P. Robbins, perception is the cognitive process through which individuals organize and interpret sensory impressions to imbue their environment with meaning. These varied perspectives converge to underscore perception as the capacity to assign significance to sensory input, influenced by individual experiences and environmental factors.*

It is essential to note that perceptions are inherently subjective and can vary widely among individuals. Altman underscores this subjectivity by defining perception as the selective processing of stimuli based on an individual's reality construct. This highlights the role of stimuli in shaping perception, with external and internal factors contributing to the formation of individual perspectives. Despite receiving identical stimuli, individuals may perceive them differently due to variations in experience, cognitive processes, and expectations, underscoring the personal nature of perception.

*Drawing from Gibson's theory, perception involves the complex process of attributing meaning to the environment, encompassing the selection, organization, and interpretation of stimuli to influence behavior and attitudes. This multifaceted understanding elucidates perception as a dynamic and individualized cognitive process shaped by internal and external factors, ultimately informing how individuals interact with and interpret the world around them.*

## **METHODOLOGY**

In order to conduct a comprehensive and accurate investigation, a structured research methodology is essential to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings. The methodology outlined below encompasses various components aimed at eliciting rich insights into students' perceptions regarding the use of Instagram as a learning aid for improving their English speaking Universitas Islam Zainul Hasan Genggong student skills.

This study adopts a qualitative approach with a descriptive qualitative design, allowing for the exploration of students' experiences and perspectives through observation and structured interviews. The researcher's active involvement is crucial at all stages, facilitating the collection of rich, contextually relevant data. Conducted at Universitas Islam Zainul Hasan Genggong, focusing on 6th-semester English majors, this setting was chosen due to active student engagement with Instagram. Data will be gathered from purposively selected undergraduate English students through interviews and documentation. Observation, interviews, and documentation will be utilized for data collection, with analysis employing descriptive qualitative techniques for systematic organization and interpretation. To ensure credibility, techniques such as triangulation and prolonged engagement will be employed, enhancing the depth and reliability of the research findings.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Result

#### Question Base

social media has become an integral part of people's lives. Beyond its role as a platform for socializing and seeking information, social media is increasingly being utilized as a learning tool, including for improving English speaking skills. This study aims to understand how social media, particularly the platforms YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, are being used by English language learners to enhance their speaking abilities. The methodology employed in this study involves in-depth interviews with English language learners from diverse backgrounds. The questions posed focus on the social media platforms used, how they utilize these platforms for learning, the perceived benefits, as well as challenges and advice for other learners.

Tabel 1. Interview Questions

Number	Question	Interviewee Category
1	What social media platforms do you use to learn English speaking skills?	All
2	Which social media platform do you use most frequently to learn English speaking skills?	All
3	What are your reasons for choosing that platform?	All
4	How do you use that platform to learn English speaking skills?	All
5	In your opinion, what are the benefits of using social media to learn English speaking skills?	All
6	Have you ever encountered any difficulties when using social media to learn English speaking skills? If yes, what are the difficulties?	All
7	What advice would you give to other students who want to use social media to learn English speaking skills?	All
8	How do you see the role of Instagram as a learning aid in improving your English-speaking skills?	Students who use Instagram
9	What do you like about learning English speaking using Instagram?	Students who use Instagram
10	What benefits do you feel after learning English speaking using Instagram?	Students who use Instagram
11	Have you ever encountered any difficulties when learning English speaking using Instagram? If yes, what are the difficulties?	Students who use Instagram
12	What advice would you give to other students who want to learn English speaking using Instagram?	Students who use Instagram
13	What is your opinion on the influence of using Instagram in English language learning?	All
14	Do you agree that Instagram can help students improve their English-speaking skills?	All
15	Why or why do you not agree with the statement?	All
16	What advice would you give to English teachers to utilize Instagram in their teaching?	All

Interviewer: ***What social media platforms do you primarily use for learning speaking skills in English?***

- P2 : *I primarily use YouTube. However, it's crucial to approach YouTube content critically and verify its credibility. Not all videos are created by experts, so it's essential to cross-reference information.*
- P3 : *I use both YouTube and TikTok. Both platforms provide opportunities to engage with native speakers, which enhances the depth of learning.*
- P4 : *YouTube is my go-to platform. The vast amount of content available there greatly aids in improving English speaking skills.*

- P6 : *I use YouTube for learning through videos, and I also find Instagram useful for staying updated on news from other countries. Plus, the memes are entertaining!*
- P8 : *YouTube is my main platform for watching videos related to speaking practice. Recently, I've started using TikTok too, as there are many creators who encourage speaking English directly, like through challenges and Q & A sessions with native speakers.*

Interviewer: ***What social media platforms do you primarily use for learning speaking skills in English?***

- P2 : *I mainly rely on YouTube. However, I approach YouTube content with caution and ensure its credibility. It's crucial to verify information from reliable sources.*
- P3 : *I utilize both YouTube and TikTok. These platforms allow me to engage with native speakers, enriching my learning experience.*
- P4 : *YouTube is my primary choice. Its extensive content greatly contributes to enhancing English speaking skills.*
- P6 : *YouTube is my primary source for video-based learning, and I also find Instagram helpful for staying updated on global news. Plus, the memes add a fun element!*
- P7 : *YouTube is where I watch most of my speaking practice videos. Recently, I've started using TikTok as well, as it offers opportunities for direct English speaking practice through challenges and Q & A sessions with native speakers.*

Besides of YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, some students also utilize other social media platforms such as Spotify (music application), WhatsApp, Facebook, and Telegram for learning speaking skills:

- P1 : *"I use Spotify because I can listen to various songs and practice my speaking skills by singing along or imitating the lyrics."*
- P5 : *"WhatsApp is my go-to for practicing speaking. I often send messages or voice notes in English."*
- P7 : *"Similar to the responses mentioned earlier, I use Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, YouTube, and sometimes Telegram for language learning."*

Interviewer: ***How do you perceive the role of Instagram as a learning aid in improving your English speaking skills?***

- P1 : *I find Instagram to be quite beneficial for improving my speaking skills. For instance, I follow accounts that share educational content in English, which helps me practice speaking by reading captions aloud and engaging with the content through comments.*
- P2 : *Instagram serves as a valuable learning aid for me. I follow English-speaking influencers and watch their stories and live sessions, which expose me to different accents and speaking styles, helping me refine my own speaking skills.*
- P3 : *Utilizing Instagram has been instrumental in my English learning journey. I participate in language exchange groups where I engage in conversations with native speakers via direct messages and video calls, providing practical speaking practice outside the classroom.*



- P4 : *has significantly contributed to my speaking proficiency. I often watch English-speaking videos on IGTV and try to imitate the pronunciation and intonation, which has helped me become more fluent in speaking English.*
- P5 : *Instagram is a convenient platform for enhancing my speaking skills. I follow English language learning accounts that post speaking prompts and challenges, allowing me to practice speaking in a fun and interactive way*
- P6 : *Instagram has become an integral part of my language learning routine. I use the platform to watch English-speaking stories and engage in discussions with other learners, which has boosted my confidence in speaking English.*
- P7 : *Instagram plays a vital role in my English speaking practice. I follow accounts that share informative content in English, and I often participate in live sessions where I can ask questions and practice speaking in real-time, making the learning process more engaging and effective.*

Interviewer: ***What are students' perceptions regarding the influence of using Instagram in English learning?***

Considering the time constraints of formal classroom learning, many students take the initiative to utilize social media both for entertainment and as a learning tool, particularly for improving their speaking skills. Social media platforms serve as crucial and effective mediums for students seeking to enhance their speaking abilities outside of the classroom. This sentiment is echoed by the following interviewees:

P1 emphasized, *"Yes, it's really important because outside the classroom we can meet everyone and we can learn new things, and of course, social media really contributes to improving speaking skills."*

P2 noted, *"Social media can be a valuable tool for improving speaking skills; however, it's important to use it mindfully and discerningly. Learners should actively seek out quality language learning resources and engage with native speakers or language enthusiasts who can provide accurate feedback."*

P3 affirmed, *"Of course, it is very important, especially in today's era where technology is highly sophisticated, and social media is ubiquitous. It must be utilized."*

P5 highlighted, *"Yes, using social media to learn speaking outside of class is important because it can help us maximize our learning."*

P6 emphasized, *"It is important; if you want to learn how to speak, you need to hear the native speakers through social media, of course."*

## **Discussions**

All students unanimously agreed on the significant role of social media in enhancing their speaking skills, particularly through direct virtual interaction with native speakers and the convenience of practicing speaking anytime and anywhere, facilitated by the features offered by social media platforms. The role of social media in improving speaking skills can be categorized into three main aspects: communication facilitator, interactive stimulus, and collaborative tool. Expanding on these categories, students pointed out that social media serves as a means of communication by providing platforms where they can engage in conversations, discussions, and exchanges with native speakers or language enthusiasts. These interactions not only expose them to authentic language usage but also enable them to receive instant feedback and corrections, which are crucial for refining their speaking abilities.

Moreover, social media acts as an interactive trigger tool by offering a myriad of resources, such as educational videos, podcasts, language learning apps, and interactive language learning communities. These resources stimulate students' interest and motivation to practice speaking by presenting engaging and interactive content tailored to their preferences and proficiency levels. Additionally, social media serves as a collaborative tool by facilitating group activities, language exchange partnerships, and collaborative projects among students. Through group discussions, joint projects, and language exchange initiatives, students can actively engage with their peers, share learning experiences, and collectively work towards improving their speaking skills in a supportive and collaborative environment. Furthermore, students acknowledged the importance and effectiveness of learning speaking through social media outside of formal classroom settings, especially for enhancing English skills in speaking. They employ various methods and strategies individually, such as recording and imitating, listening to English songs, commenting on posts, and seeking practice partners via social media.

Additionally, all students recognized numerous advantages of learning speaking through social media, highlighting its practicality, accessibility, and user-friendliness. Despite encountering minor challenges such as laziness, limited data quotas, and occasional connectivity issues, students expressed their overall enjoyment of learning speaking through social media. They emphasized the flexibility and convenience offered by social media platforms, which allow them to tailor their learning experiences according to their preferences and schedules, thereby making the language learning process more engaging and enjoyable.

## **CONSLUSION**

Based on the interviews conducted with students regarding their perception of utilizing Instagram as a learning aid in improving their English speaking skills, several key insights were obtained. Initially, it was evident that Instagram played a significant role as a supplementary learning tool alongside other social media platforms like YouTube and TikTok. Students acknowledged Instagram's value in providing diverse content and opportunities for language practice. Moreover, students emphasized Instagram's interactive features, such as stories, live sessions, and language exchange groups, which facilitated direct engagement with native speakers and exposure to various speaking styles and accents. Furthermore, students highlighted Instagram's role in enhancing their speaking proficiency through activities like reading captions aloud, engaging with educational content, and participating in speaking challenges and prompts. Additionally, students recognized Instagram's convenience and accessibility, enabling them to practice speaking skills at their own pace and convenience, thereby complementing formal classroom instruction. Overall, students perceived Instagram as a valuable learning aid for improving their English speaking skills, citing its interactive nature, diverse content offerings, and convenience as key factors contributing to their positive learning experiences.

## **REFERENCES**

- Anugrahadi, S. (2019). Mengenal Remaja Generasi Z (Dalam Rangka memperingati Hari Remaja Internasional). BKKBN Nusa Tenggara Barat.
- Azzahra, A., Fransiska, K. B., Pratiwi, S. D., & Alfarisy, F. (2022). Analisis Padanan Kata pada Fitur-Fitur Media Sosial. *Deiksis*, 14(3). <https://doi.org/10.30998/deiksis.v14i3.11647>
- Bowo, A. N. A., Paryanto, P., & Iqbal, M. (2023). Pengaruh Media Sosial Instagram terhadap Gaya Hidup Mahasiswa. *Jurnal Ilmu Manajemen Dan Pendidikan (JIMPIAN)*, 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.30872/jimpian.v3i1.2249>
- Datubara, B. M., & Irwansyah, I. (2019). Instagram TV: Konvergensi Penyiaran Digital dan Media Sosial. *Mediator: Jurnal Komunikasi*, 12(2). <https://doi.org/10.29313/mediator.v12i2.4778>

- Malik, R., & Nurhadi, J. (2023). Strategi Pembelajaran Keterampilan Berbahasa Anak Menggunakan Algoritma Aplikasi Tiktok, Instagram Reels, dan Youtube Shorts. *Disastra: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Dan Sastra Indonesia*, 5(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.29300/disastra.v5i1.8123>
- Nurciana Nasaruddin, & Hasbullah Abu Kassim. (2017). Persepsi dalam Perspektif Psikologi Islam. *Prosiding Seminar Islamic Creative Art Theraphy (I-CAT) Peringkat Kebagsaan*.
- Qashmal, Z., & Ahmadi, A. (2015). Hubungan Penggunaan Media Sosial Instagram Terhadap Pembentukan Citra Diri. *Universitas Islam Bandung*.
- Situmorang, Wi. R., & Hayati, R. (2023). Media Sosial Instagram Sebagai Bentuk Validasi Dan Representasi Diri. *Jurnal Sosiologi Nusantara*, 9(2).
- Suhaimi, S., Evadianti, Y., & Yudistiro, I. R. (2023). INSTAGRAM SEBAGAI NEW MEDIA UNTUK MEMBANGUN PERSONAL BRANDING. *Journal Media Public Relations*, 3(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.37090/jmp.v3i1.976>
- Supena, S. (2024). Peran Bahasa Inggris dan Bahasa Indonesia Sebagai Alat yang Penting di Era Globalisasi. *Jurnal Pendidikan Guru*, 5(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.47783/jurpendigu.v5i1.651>
- Thahir, A., & Wahyuni, S. (2023). Pelatihan Penggunaan Reels Instagram sebagai Media Pembelajaran Digital. *BERNAS: Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*, 4(4).
- Utari, D. A., Miftachudin, M., & Hasin, M. K. (2019). APLIKASI ANDROID 'SMART TECHNICAL ENGLISH' UNTUK MENINGKATKAN KEAHLIAN BAHASA INGGRIS MAHASISWA VOKASI. *Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Dan Sastra Indonesia Metalingua*, 4(2).  
<https://doi.org/10.21107/metalingua.v4i2.6129>
- Vitasari, N., & Hasanudin, C. (2022). Pemanfaatan Fitur Reels Instagram pada Pembelajaran Membaca Puisi guna Mendukung Gerakan Mereka Belajar di Sekolah Menengah. *Seminar Nasional Daring*, 2.