

Using Bright App to Enhance Saudi Intermediate Students' L2 Vocabulary Knowledge

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to investigate Saudi intermediate students' attitudes toward using Bright App to enhance English vocabulary. The Repetition technique that Bright app use enables the brain to memorize the words for a long time. The participants of this research were ten female intermediate students studying at 169 School, Riyadh city, Saudi Arabia. It was an experimental study and the research tool used was a questionnaire. The results showed that Bright App is helpful to enhance the vocabulary knowledge of the students. Moreover, the participants showed a positive attitude towards using the Bright App.

Keywords: Bright App, vocabulary knowledge, students' attitudes

INTRODUCTION

"Vocabulary knowledge is often viewed as a critical tool for foreign language learners because a limited vocabulary in a foreign language impedes successful communication" (AL-Qahtani, 2015, p. 22). Vocabulary is basic part in any languages, so learning vocabulary helps the learners to use the right and appropriate words when they speak or write. Without enough understanding of words, students cannot understand others or express their feeling clearly. Learning vocabulary with their meaning is essential for teenagers to fit in with the community around them. Nowadays there are many tools to learn English vocabulary enjoyable and simple ways. Bright App is one of the Applications that helps people to learn new words with their meaning.

The traditional way to learn vocabulary in the school does not help students to improve their vocabulary due to the development of technology. Students need to use something more useful to them and do not take too much time from them like school. Learning vocabulary through application will help them to build and understand the vocabulary well in short time.

This study aimed to investigate the effect of using bright App to enhance the vocabulary, especially of Saudi Intermediate students. The study was conducted to find answer for the following research question.

- What is the students' attitude towards the effect of using bright App to enhance vocabulary?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Lei (2018) conducted a study to find out an effective way to learn vocabulary for college students by using WeChat App on a smartphone. The participants were 30 freshmen Chinese students from Sichuan University of Arts and Science, Dazhou, China. The researcher used the qualitative methods to collect the data. The researcher distributed a questionnaire, pre and post word tests among 30 participants to see the effect of using WeChat App on the smartphone also to estimate the competence of smartphone in learning vocabulary. The results of the study showed a positive attitude of the students toward the use of a smartphone to enhance vocabulary.

In another study, Wenyuan (2017) explored the benefits of mobile phones for learning and teaching in the last years due to the development of technology. "Mobile applications continue to update to meet various needs of users in their language learning In addition, the life of college students is almost inseparable from the phone, which means using mobile phone mobile in English teaching will certainly become a trend" (Wenyuan,2017). This study used two methods on Mobile Assisted Language Learning (MALL), in the first method the researcher used two applications in this project the WeCaht and Youdao. These applications helped Chinese teachers and college students to teach and learn English as a foreign language and Youdao app helped Chinese students to learn English vocabulary with a different dictionary. WeChat contains many characteristics to learn and teach language in effective ways. The second method used these apps in a pedagogical situation to learn vocabulary. Teachers use WeChat in class to teach students new words, therefore, students can use Youdao App dictionary to search for new words. Students used their mobile phone in the class for 10 minutes every day. The results of using these methods on Mobile Assisted Language Learning (MALL) in learning and teaching it made the classroom more flexible, also that led students to be more active.

The comparison of these studies is Wenyuan (2017) study focused on learning and teaching Chinese students English vocabulary by using mobile phone with two applications, WeChats and Youdoa. On the other hand, Lei (2018) study concentrated on the effective way for the Chinese college students to learn English vocabulary by using WeChat app on a smartphone. This research concentrated on using Bright app on the mobile phone to enhance the English vocabulary of Saudi intermediate school students. The participants in this study were female intermediate students, however in previous studies the participants were college students with mixed genders.

METHOD

Research design

The research was quantitative research. In this study, the researcher used a questionnaire included eight close-ended questions.

Participants

The participants of this research were ten female intermediate students studying at 169 School, Riyadh city, Saudi Arabia. They are beginners their native language is Arabic.

Instrument

The researcher designed a questionnaire on a Likert scale with five possible responses (strongly agree/agree/neutral/disagree/strongly disagree). The questionnaire included eight statements to identify whether using Bright App enhances the vocabulary of Saudi Intermediate students. The statements of the questionnaire written in the English language with the Arabic translation (see the Appendix).

Data Collection Procedure

In the beginning, the researcher made the intermediate students upload the Bright App. Secondly, the students used the Bright App for two weeks. Later the researcher gave the students a questionnaire to see how using the Bright App help them to improve their vocabulary. At the end, the researcher collected the response, and the questionnaire analysed individually.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section explains the results of the data collected through the questionnaire.

The researcher designed a questionnaire on a Likert scale with five possible responses (5 strongly agree, 4 agree, 3 neutral, 2 disagree, 1 strongly disagree). It included 8 statement related to the using of Bright App. The questionnaire has been used to identify the students' attitude towards the effect of using bright App to enhance vocabulary.

Table1. Response frequencies for questionnaire items

Statement	SA	A	N	D	SD	Mean
1. Bright App is beneficial for enhancing vocabulary skill.	7	3	0	0	0	4.7
2. Bright App helps learners to memorize the spellings of words well.	7	3	0	0	0	4.7
3. Using repetition to write the words without using a word in sentences is benefit way to learn them.	2	7	1	0	0	4.1
4. Bright App helps learners to learn new words with their meaning in Arabic language.	3	6	1	0	0	4.2
5. Using Application like Bright app for learning vocabulary is better than the traditional way in school.	3	6	1	0	0	4.2
6. Pronouncing the words in Bright App help learners to learn easily.	3	6	1	0	0	4.2
7. Bright App helps you to learn more than 3 words in one day.	4	4	2	0	0	4.2
8. Repetition technique enables your brain to memorize words quickly and effectively.	3	7	0	0	0	4.3

Table 1 demonstrates students' attitudes towards using Bright App to enhance vocabulary. First, the mean response of statement one (4.7) showed more than half of

students agreed with that Bright App is beneficial for enhancing vocabulary. The responses of statement two (4.7) also, showed more than half of students consistent with that Bright App helped learners to memorize the spellings of words well.

The results of statement 3(4.1) showed that the majority of the students see that Using repetition to write the words without using words in sentences is benefit way to learn them. Also, the main responses of statement 4 (4.2) clarified that Bright App helps learners to learn new words with their meaning in the Arabic language. Moreover, results of statement 5 (4.2) showed that the majority agreed with Using Application like Bright app for learning vocabulary is better than the traditional way in school.

Additionally, responses of statement 6 (4.2) demonstrated that the majority agreed that Pronouncing the words in Bright App help learners to learn easily. As well as the responses of statement 7 (4.2) indicated that most of the students agreed that Bright App helps the learner to learn more than 3 words in one day.

Last but not least, the responses of statement 8 (4.3) showed that most of the students agreed that Repetition technique enables the brain to memorize words quickly and effectively. This result is in agreement with Lei (2018) and Wenyuan (2017) findings which showed that using mobile phone applications enhance students' vocabulary. In brief, the participants in this study showed a positive attitude towards using Bright App to enhance vocabulary skill.

CONCLUSION

This study was aimed to investigate the attitudes of Saudi intermediate students toward using Bright App to enhance vocabulary skill. The result of the data collected showed that using Bright App has a positive effect on enhancing students' vocabulary.

In this research, some limitation faced. First, the time duration of the experiment was limited. Also, the number of the participants was limited. Furthermore, the researcher faced some problem with the application because it changes the free training from 2 weeks to 1 week; the researcher and participants had to pay to use the app.

The researcher suggested a set of recommendations based on the results of this study. First EFL teachers are recommend to make their students use the application in the class and at home as homework. The ministry of education is recommended to select some benefit applications and pay for the student if they need to help them use an excellent application to improve their second language. The researcher also recommends the students to use various cell phone application that helps them to improve their second language vocabulary.

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APPENDIX

Descriptive title (Questionnaire)

Statement (العبارة)	Strongly agree (اوافق بشدة) 5	Agree (اوافق) 4	Neutral (محايد) 3	Disagree (لا اوافق) 2	Strongly disagree (لا اوافق بشدة) 1
Bright App is beneficial for enhancing vocabulary skill. مفيد لتحسين المفردات(Bright(تطبيق					
Bright App helps learners to memorize the spellings of words well. يساعد المتعلمين على حفظ (تطبيق)Bright الكتابة الصحيحة للكلمات					
Using repetition to write the words without using a words in sentences is benefit way to learn them. (استخدام طريقة التكرار لكتابة الكلمات دون وضع الكلمات في جمل تعتبر طريقة مفيدة)					
Bright App helps learners to learn new words with their meaning in Arabic language. يساعد المتعلمين على تعلم (تطبيق) Bright كلمات جديدة مع معانيها في اللغة العربية)					
Using Application like Bright app for learning vocabulary is better than the traditional way in school. لتعلم (تطبيق)Bright(استخدام تطبيق مثل تطبيق المفردات يعتبر أفضل من الطرق التقليدية المستخدمة في المدارس)					
Pronouncing the words in Bright App help learners to learn easily. يساعد (تطبيق)Bright(نطق الكلمات في تطبيق المتعلمين على تعلمها بسهولة)					

<p>Bright App helps you to learn more than 3 words in one day. يساعدك على تعلم أكثر من 3 Bright (تطبيق كلمات جديدة في اليوم)</p>					
<p>Repetition technique enables your brain to memorize words quickly and effectively. (التكرار يجعل عقلك قادر على تذكر الكلمات بفعالية) و بشكل اسرع</p>					