IMPROVING STUDENTS' ENGAGEMENT IN LISTENING ACTIVITIES THROUGH EDPUZZLE

(A Classroom Action Research to VIIIA Grade Students of SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak)

A THESIS

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TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
TANJUNGPURA UNIVERSITY
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STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

Except where reference is made in the text of the thesis, this thesis contains no materials published elsewhere or extracted in whole or in part from a thesis or any other degree or diploma. No other person's work has been used without due acknowledgment in the main text of the thesis. This thesis has not been submitted for the award of any degree or diploma in any other tertiary institution. The research supervisors approved all research procedures reported in this thesis and did not break any faculty or university research ethics.

Pontianak, August 2024



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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to

Her beloved parents

Sudadi and Wahidahtul sapa'ah

My awesome sister

Intan Sri Lestari

Her beloved family

Ade Jaenudin's family and Kastim's family

Her small village, Gunung Ambawang

Her fraternities Master English Department 2024

Her alma mater, UNTAN

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ABSTRACT

Engaging students is crucial for the success of listening activities, particularly at the junior high school level. This study aimed to enhance students' engagement in English listening activities through the use of EDpuzzle, focusing on 20 eighth-grade students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak. Initially, the students faced challenges such as distraction, disengagement, difficulty understanding audio content, and feelings of frustration and demotivation. The research employed Classroom Action Research (CAR), implemented in two cycles. Data collection methods included observation, field notes, and listening tests. Qualitative findings revealed the improvements in engagement during the second cycle. The interactive features of EDpuzzle such as visually engaging content, embedded questions, and the ability to replay video make the listening experiences more accessible and enjoyable. These features boosted cognitive, behavioral, and emotional engagement, leading to improved attendance, active participation, and fewer classroom disruptions. Descriptive statistics indicated notable progress, with emotional and behavioral engagement reaching 86.67%, and cognitive engagement improving to 78.33%. Additionally, 85% of students achieved scores above the success threshold in listening tests, demonstrating better comprehension, particularly in identifying degrees of comparison and summarizing video content. These findings imply that EDpuzzle provides a dynamic and interactive learning environment that enhances student engagement in listening activities.

Keywords: Listening, Engagement, EDpuzzle

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a comprehensive overview of the research background, questions, purposes, significance, and terminology.

A. Research Background

Addressing students' engagement in English listening activities is crucial in the classroom, as success in achieving learning objectives depends on students' involvement. When students are actively engaged, they are more attentive, focused, and responsive during listening tasks. This heightened involvement allows them to understand and process spoken language, which is essential for mastering listening skills. Engaged students are also more likely to participate actively, ask questions, and apply what they have learned, leading to a more profound comprehension and retention of the material. However, after observing and discussing with the eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak, the researcher noticed the need to increase their engagement in listening activities. Many students expressed difficulty in understanding the audio because they concentrated on trying to grasp every word instead of focusing on the main idea or essential information.

Additionally, students often requested the teacher to repeat or raise the audio volume due to difficulty understanding the content. Furthermore, some students struggled to concentrate because of disruptions from their classmates, including loud conversations, frequent movement in and out of the classroom, and eating during the English listening activities. These issues negatively affect the English listening activities of the eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak.

Based on the challenges described, the researcher offered EDpuzzle to improve students' engagement in listening activities. The researcher transformed the teaching of English listening from using only audio to incorporating EDpuzzle, an interactive video-based learning platform that allows teachers to improve students' listening activity (Thanh, 2022). The use of EDpuzzle aims to enhance students' engagement in English listening activities. The research focuses on three types of engagement: emotional engagement, which involves students' feelings and interest in the material; behavioural engagement, which refers to their active participation and effort during the activities; and cognitive engagement, which pertains to their mental investment and deep processing of the content (Fredricks et al., 2016).

Nevertheless, the classroom setting was very comfortable and well-equipped, with facilities like a whiteboard, air conditioner, lights, and internet access. However, despite these complete facilities, when the students began the English listening activity using audio, they started to get bored. Some of them began walking around, disturbing their friends, leaving the classroom, and even secretly eating in the corner. These issues impacted the English listening activities and decreased students’ engagement.

According to pre-observation data, students’ listening scores were inadequate, with a mean score of 40.52, and they were categorised as poor based on their category score (Yusnida et al., 2017). Nevertheless, it was noted that out of 20 students, only 5 demonstrated engagement in English listening. These engaged students consistently focused and paid attention during English listening activities, actively asked questions about complex listening, did not complain about assigned tasks, showed discipline, and refrained from causing disruptions in the classroom. Therefore, the researcher switched

from using audio to EDpuzzle for English listening activities to maximize students' engagement in English listening.

The researcher prioritized addressing issues related to the method used in teaching English listening. She incorporated the EDpuzzle into the English listening of the teaching and learning process to enhance students' engagement. When the teaching method is appropriately implemented, indirect benefits may extend to other aspects, such as the teaching environment condition (Lateef, 2020). Some researchers have investigated the efficacy and effectiveness of EDpuzzle. The study by Mawaddah et al. (2022) stated that using EDpuzzle improved students' listening abilities. The students showed increased motivation to participate in listening activities, which they liked most due to the appealing "rewatch" feature and the automated feedback provided by the platform. According to Egilistiani and Prayuana (2021), EDpuzzle is an educational platform that facilitates teachers in fostering students' engagement by utilizing video content for learning purposes. Teachers can personalize and adapt the videos to fit their learning objectives.

Previous researchers on EDpuzzle have examined its efficacy, appropriateness, and advantages in facilitating communication and learning outcomes between teachers and students. Based on the earlier research, the researcher decided to employ the classroom action research method to improve students' engagement in listening through EDpuzzle, focusing on eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak. Compared to previous research, the gap identified is that the researcher aimed to enhance students' engagement by incorporating three dimensions of engagement: behavioural engagement, emotional engagement, and cognitive engagement, utilizing EDpuzzle.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background, this research aimed to improve students' engagement in English listening activities using EDpuzzle. Accordingly, the study was driven by the following research questions:

1. How does EDpuzzle improve behavioural engagement among eighth–grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak?
2. How does EDpuzzle improve cognitive engagement among eighth–grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak?
3. How does EDpuzzle improve emotional engagement among eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak?
4. How does EDpuzzle improve students' listening comprehension?

C. Research Purposes

Following the research questions above, the purposes of this study are:

1. To find out behavioural engagement through EDpuzzle among eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak.
2. To find out cognitive engagement through EDpuzzle among eighth–grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak.
3. To find out the emotional engagement in English listening through EDpuzzle among eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak.
4. To find out students’ listening comprehension through EDpuzzle among eighth-grade A students at SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak.

D. Research Significances

This study is expected to provide advantages for the students, teachers, and other researchers.

1. Students:

   By using EDpuzzle, the students are expected to improve their behavioural, cognitive, and emotional engagement in English listening activities.

2. Teachers:

   Using EDpuzzle in English listening activities enables teachers to enhance their teaching methods, which can foster professional improvement and creativity.

3. Other Researchers:

   Through this research, other researchers are likely to discover additional references related to improving students' engagement in listening using EDpuzzle.

E. Research Terminology

To prevent confusion among readers, the terms used in this research are defined as follows:

1. Engagement

Engagement involves students actively paying attention to the video on EDpuzzle, feeling enthusiastic about the content**,** asking questions when they struggle to understand the material, diligently completing listening exercises, and following the teacher's instructions. They participate actively in learning alongside their peers, assisting others as needed.

2. Listening

In this research, listening focused on identifying, understanding, and interpreting the main idea and specific information from comparative and superlative degree video lessons.

3. EDpuzzle

This research used the EDpuzzle as a teaching tool that incorporates video content with embedded questions and interactive elements designed to engage learners in English listening activities.

4. SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak

SMP Islam Al-Azhar 17 Pontianak refers to the educational institution where the research was conducted. The class chosen was the eighth-grade A students. It is located in Southeast Pontianak.