The Perception of Computer Engineering Department students at Politeknik Negeri Jember towards the use of Duolingo in learning English

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Abstract: Duolingo application is an online free language educational application. It become more suitable, innovative and applicable way to learn english in EFL classroom. The aim of this study is to find out the students perception towards the use of duolingo application in learning English. The method used in this study is a descrptive research. Then, subject of the study are students at computer engineering department, Politeknik Negeri Jember. The result of this study revealed that computer engineering Department students at Politeknik Negeri Jember come to realize duolingo as a software that is easy to use, interesting and enjoyable for learning English. In addition, duolingo bring a new concept (gamification) in learning English. Thus, it makes them very exciting in learning English.

Keywords: perception, students, duolingo application

Globalization (oxford:1989) refers to there is no borders between countries in the globalization era. They are connected each other because of the advanced of technology and communication. Globalization era known as the era of no boundaries in information, science, technology and many things. Furthermore, many people belive that everyone should master English because English is universal language that is used in many countries. In addition, english subject is very important for students in order to get bright career (Astarilla, 2018, p.1).

However, the explanation above were in line with the Politeknik Negeri Jember. Inthis case, the students at computer engineering department should speak English well. Unfortunately, most of the student still have difficulties in learning English. In addition, most of them have got english for eight years. In this case, they have learned it since elementary to senior high school. Moreover, they only learn English when they have a classlike basic English and they never pactice it after class or outside classroom. As aresult they are lack of vocabulary.

From those condition, it make them unenthusiasthic to use English. English is one of the competency that computer engineering department student learn. As we we have known if someone wants to master English language, he or she should know some vocabularies in English. In other words, someone who want to master a foreign language, should pay

attention to language aspect if he want to show a very great proficiency of that language. Moreover, vocabulary is the main factor to mastering a language (Decaricco, 2001, pp. 285-299). The limitation of vocabulary make them become passive students and affect them in practicing English. Finally, it could affect their motivation to learn English (Astarilla, 2018, p.2). in order to encourage the student to learn English, the leacturer should be creative and innovative not only the teaching method but also the teaching media. Based on that condition, the writer want to make the student excited and enjoyable to learn English. Duolingo is an application that is used in this study. Moreover, it designed easily to use and carry out the gamication concept. So the student do not feel like learning, but to have fun with games.

Duolingo application is an online and free educational application. It can be used both web-based and android-based. Duolingo offers a great solution to overcome the students' problem in learning English. Moreover, duolingo application facilitates students to learn in an exciting way because it is completed by some features and lots of practice tests. The following is an example of duolingo application in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Duolingo Application

RESEARCH METHODS

The writer used descriptive research method in order to describe computer engineering department student's perception towards the use of duolingo in learning English. Moreover, qualitative research can describe something in a detail way and it is completed by the data from kinds of sources (Nassaji, 2015, pp. 129-132). Subject of the study are students of Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Politeknik Negeri jember.There are 104students, then for the instruments of data collection , the writer use observation and questionnaire sheet. Likert scale is used by the writer in questionnaire . This style of questions help the writer to gather large amount of data easily and help to meausere affective variables.(Nemoto, T., & Beglar, D., 2014, p.1).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In questionnaire, the writer used twelve questions. The detailed result from the questionnaireshowed in the explanation below.

Table 1. Duolingo application can increase my vocabulary in English

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	5.4	4.0	53.1	37.5

Table 1 shows that the computer engineering department students have various answers. 90.6 % students agree and strongly agree that using duolingo application can increase their vocabulary in English than learning vocabulary conventionally. Then 5.4 % students think eventhough using duolingo couldnot enhance their vocabulary. However, most of the students believe that duolingo help them to enhance their vocabulary.

Table 2. Duolingo application encourages me to speak in English

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	1.4	17.3	68.8	12.5

Table 2 shows that majority of the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application motivate and encourage them to speak in English. In other words, the students think duolingo make them brave to speak in English. Besides, 1.4 % students think eventhough they use duolingo, it couldnot help them to be brave to speak in English and rest of them are do not know whether duolingo is very useful for them in learning English or not.

Table 3. Duolingo application makes learning grammar or structure is easier

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	2.5	25.6	62.5	9.4

Table 3 describes that 71.9 % the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application makes them easier in learning structure or grammar.

It means that, the students think duolingo help them to learn grammar or structure easily. Then, 2.5 % students think although they use duolingo, they still find some difficulties in learning grammar or structure.

Table 4. Duolingo application help me to pronounce some English words appropriately

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	3.0	27.8	65.6	3.6

Table 4 describes that 65.6 % the students agree that duolingo application makes them easier in learning pronunciation. Moreover, 3.6 % students strongly agree that duolingo help them to prounounce english words correctly. It means that most of the students believe that duolingo help them to pronounce English words properly. Then, 3.0 % students are disagree.

Table 5. Duolingo is a high quality application to improve my listening skill

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	1.5	25.5	62.8	10.2

Table 5 shows that 73 % students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application enhance their ability in listening skill. It means that, the students think duolingo help them to improve their listening skill. Then, 1.5 % students think they still find difficulties in listening although they use duolingo.

Table 6. Duolingo application helps me to enhance my reading skill

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	2.5	11.5	50	36

Table 6 shows that 86 % of the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that using duolingo application help them to enhance their reading skill. Then 2.5 % students think eventhough they use duolingo, it couldnot enhance their reading skill. However, most of the students of computer engineering department believe that duolingo help them to enhance their reading skill.

Table 7. Duolingo application provides me an opportunity to practice my writing
skill

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	2.5	15.5	45.5	36.5

Table 7 shows that majority of the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application provides them an opportunity to practice writing skill. In other words, the students think duolingo has features that help them to practice their writing. Besides, 2.5 % students think eventhough they use duolingo, it couldnot help them to practice their writing skill and rest of them are do not know whether duolingo is very useful for them in writing skill.

Table 8. Duolingo is an educational application to improve my ability in translating
some words or sentences

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	3.4	1.9	62.5	32.2

Table 8 describes that 94.7 % the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application helps them to improve their ability in translating some words or sentences. It means that, the students think duolingo help them to learn how to translate some words or sentences. Then, 3.4 % students are disagree and 1.9 % are undecided.

Table 9. Duolingo application provides a gamification concept to make english
learner more enthusiastic

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	0.5	13.5	50	36

Table 9 describes that 50 % the students agree that duolingo application is very interesting application because it provides a gamification concept. Moreover, 36 % students strongly agree that duolingo is very attractive and enjoyable application so they are not bored when

they use it. It means that most of the students believe that duolingo is a kind of application that can be used for learning by playing. Then, 0.5 % students are disagree.

Table 10. Duolingo application is easy to access everytime and everywhere

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	1.4	22.8	65.6	10.2

Table 10 shows that 75.8 % students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application is easy to access everytime and everywhere. It means that, the students think duolingo is an application that can be used and installed whether on PC or android. Then, 1.4 % students think they still find difficulties in using duolingo application.

Table 11. Duolingo application provides some completed features for english learners

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	2.5	4.0	53	40.5

Table 11 describes that 93.5 % the students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application provides some completed features. It means that, the students believe duolingo completed by the best features such as all skills are developed because duolingo has exercise related with those 4 skills like reading, speaking, writing and listening, duolingo is a free application for everybody who wants to learn languages. Then, 2.5 % students are disagree and 4.0 % are undecided.

Table 12. Duolingo application is designed for people of all ages

strongly disagree	disagree	undecided	agree	strongly agree
0	3.4	7.1	46.9	42.6

Table 12 describes that 89.5 % the computer engineering department students agree and strongly agree that duolingo application is designed for people of all ages. It means that,

everybody can use and access it and it is free. Then, 3.4 % students are disagree and 7.1 % are undecided.

This study finally reveal the perception of computer engineering department students on learning English by using duolingo application. Most of the student of computer engineering department showing more positive perception rather than negative perception. So it can be concluded that duolingo is an online free language educational application that can influence and motivate students especially computer engineering department students from Politeknik Negeri Jember to learn english and improve their skill in learning english. The detail perceptions results (agree and strongly agree) as follows:

1. Duolingo application can increase my vocabulary in English (90.6%)
2. Duolingo application encourages me to speak in English (81.3%)
3. Duolingo application makes learning grammar or structure is easier (71.9%)
4. Duolingo application help me to pronounce some English words appropriately (69.2%)
5. Duolingo is a high quality application to improve my listening skill (73%)
6. Duolingo application helps me to enhance my reading skill (86%)
7. Duolingo application provides me an opportunity to practice my writing skill (82%)
8. Duolingo is an educational application to improve my ability in translating some words or sentences (94.7%)
9. Duolingo application provides a gamification concept to make english learner more enthusiastic (86%)
10. Duolingo application is easy to access everytime and everywhere (75.8%)
11. Duolingo application provides some completed features for english learners (93.5%)
12. Duolingo application is designed for people of all ages (89.5%)

CONCLUSION

Based on the result of the study, the writer can draw the conclusion that the computer engineering department students have positive perception about the use of duolingo in learning English. Duolingo application has many advantageous to help the students to master English. This application completed by great features so it can make the students fell enjoy and enthusiastic in learning English. This application also is very interesting and exciting for learning english.

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