



## Analysis of Digital English Dictionary Used by Students of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar Gunungsitoli

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**Abstract.** Dictionary has an important role in the language learning process while the dictionary is used as a learning tool. As a learning tool, dictionary can be used independently because there a lot of features in it such as structure, word order, types of words, meaning and pronunciation. At present, dictionaries available in two versions, they are printed and digital versions which can be in the form of websites or applications. The aim of this research is to find out the use of English digital dictionaries by secondary students, especially students ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar Gunungsitoli. Based on the results of interviews with informants and a questionnaire administered to 20 students, this study used a qualitative descriptive method with data analysis. The results of the study found that digital dictionaries are used for language learning, translation and to improve English knowledge. It is strongly suggested to government to give access to the internet since those dictionaries sometimes use network. The developer of the application is also encouraged to make it accessible offline. The research also suggest for future researcher to find out about the effect of using a digital dictionary on English learning.

**Keywords:** Digital Dictionary, English, Translating, Undergraduate Students.

### INTRODUCTION

English is one of international language that is widely spoken throughout the world. English ranks second as the language which most widely adopted as the official language of a country. As the most widely used language in the world, it is only natural that English is included as one of the subjects that must be studied. English is taught to students, both students who are majoring in English and those who are not majoring in English. In order to use English accurately and correctly, we must first know the meaning of the language we use. This is performed thus there are no translation errors that can lead to miscommunication. One of the tools we can use to help translating is dictionary.

With the rapid development of technology, especially smartphone technology nowadays there are so many websites or dictionary applications that have emerged. This is because there are various features which can be found in smartphones that are very practical and portable so that they can be carried and accessed wherever we are. Undergraduate students are also one of the users who are very sensitive to technological advances so that they can easily adjust to the development, especially technology related to smartphone use.

A dictionary is ordinarily a list of words arranged alphabetically. In addition, the information which is also included in the dictionary are regarding spelling, pronunciation, word

class, meaning of words, sometimes word history and examples when using the words in sentences (Setiawati, 2016). Meanwhile, according to (Oxford, 2012), a dictionary is a book that contains words from A to Z and explains the meaning of each word. (Poerwadarminta, 2005) said that a dictionary is a book that contains information about the meaning of words. The dictionary is a book that makes a collection of terms or names arranged along with an explanation of their use and arranged alphabetically with a description of their meaning or their translation of these terms or names (Pratiwi et al., 2016).

The researcher explore analysis of digital english dictionary use by students ninth grade conducted in the same time of 3<sup>th</sup> internship, from April until June on SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar. This article aims to present an analysis of digital english dictionary used by students ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar in 2022/2023.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

The utilization of technology is increasingly being taken into account to create favorable framework conditions framework conditions. The use of technology covers many areas, especially in field of education. Gunawan (2016) revealed that the utilization of information and communication technology for learning activities that have recently been carried out are is intended to direct technology products so that they can be utilized properly for the interests of education development.

Technology can also support the teaching and learning process to deliver information. Of course, this can facilitate teachers and learners in delivering and receiving information. delivering and receiving information. In this case, educational technology also plays a role to facilitate the learning process.

Salsabilah and Agustian (2021) also said that educational technology is a field concerned with efforts to facilitate the learning process and improve performance through the design, and management of educational technology. learning and performance improvement through the design, and management of technological resources properly. good. So that the role of technology in learning can create a communication network between teachers and learners. To be able to communicate with correspondents, one must now be able to use an international language, namely English. use an international language, namely English. Correspondents are interlocutors such as interlocutors such as listener, foreigner and even native speaker which is of course required to use English as the language used when communicating. English is an international language that can be used to communicate with people around the world. the world.

Welianto (2020) states that English has become an international language. English is used for communication in almost every country in the world. Some even make it the official or first language of their country.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The research method which is used in this research is descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive qualitative research is a research that aims to collect data, where the data that has been successfully collected then presented again accompanied by analysis. The researcher hopes to provide a clear explanation about digital dictionaries use in learning English by the student's ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar with this analysis. The analysis of this research will be based on questionnaire and interviews which is given to the student's ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga. The answer from the interview and questionnaire given by the undergraduate students will help the researcher in describing how the student's ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga use digital dictionary and also what are the ease and obstacle in using it.

According to Arikunto (2012) if the population is less than 100 people, the total sample is taken as a whole, but if the population is greater than 100 people, 10-15% or 20-25% of the population can be taken. The total population of student's ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar who take English courses is 200 students. The research took 10 percent of the population as sample; therefore the number of students sampled was 20 students.

Sugiyono (2013) suggests that interviewing provides the research a means to gain a deeper understanding of how the participant interprets a situation that cannot be gained through observation alone. The purpose of this statement is that by interviewing, researchers will find out more about participants in interpreting situations and phenomena that occur where this is not able to be found only through observation. In this study, semi-structured interviews were used which included in detailed interviews. The research team grouped the questions based on the interview purpose.

Survey by using interview

The indicators of this interview are addressed in the following table:

Table. 1. Interview indicators

No	Instrument	Objective	Interview Questions
1.	Interview	Students ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar	a.The ease in using digital dictionary b.Print dictionary Replacement with digital dictionaries c. Benefit of digital dictionaries

Source: Data processed by research, (2022)

Survey by using questionnaire

The indicators of this questionnaire are addressed in the following table.

Table 2. Questionnaire indicators

No	Instrument	Objective	Indicators
1.	Questionnaire	Students ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar	a.Student motivation in using digital dictionaries. b. The Ease in using digital dictionaries for students. c.Portability in the use of digital dictionaries for students.

Source: Data processed by research, (2022)

This study's technique is a descriptive method which is processed qualitatively. There are three steps included in this research, those are data reduction, data display and conclude the research conclusion. The undergraduate students are given interview question about the ease, obstacle and also benefit in using digital dictionary. Following that they also asked to fill questionnaire about their motivation, ease and portability in using digital English dictionary. The researcher reduce the data which they get from the interview along with questionnaire answers and display the result in a form of a brief summary and also using chart. The analysis results are data reduction and then presented in the form of processed data to draw final conclusions as a result of this study.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Interviews were conducted to random undergraduate students' particularly economic education students as samples and their answers were described as follow. For questions about the ease found in using a digital dictionary, the undergraduate students answered that the digital dictionary is very easy to be carried anywhere and anytime. They find the vocabulary which they are looking for easily so they don't have to waste time. Digital dictionaries are also simple, understandable and by using a digital dictionary you do not have to carry a thick printed dictionary. The undergraduate students also asked whether digital dictionary can replace the role of printed version dictionary, most students answered that it could because it followed technology development and digital dictionary is easy to use. Others answered that it could not because it was due to poor networks in their residence which made them more comfortable using a printed dictionary.

When asked about the obstacles in using digital dictionary, according to the undergraduate students, the main obstacle was the network problem that was still not good so that sometimes it was difficult for them to access the digital dictionary. The use of digital dictionary requires them to be online therefore if there is network disturbance or their internet data runs out, they cannot use the digital dictionary. In addition, sometimes the meaning of the word which they are looking for is not properly interpreted by the digital dictionary. As for the benefits gained from using a digital dictionary, the undergraduate students answered that a digital dictionary helps in learning English easier, such as being able to do assignments efficiently, helping to translate difficult words that they have not understood and to help smoothen their English pronunciation because there are several types of digital dictionary that also tells you how a word is pronounced.

The survey results regarding digital dictionary use by the students of ninth grade of SMP Swasta Bunga Mawar, while the results of the questionnaire which is performed in the study can be described as follows. For statement 1, I used a digital dictionary to learn English from 20 respondents obtained 75% or 15 students answered strongly agree that they used a digital dictionary to learn English. 5 students (25%) answered neither agree nor strongly disagree. For statement 2, I use a digital dictionary to translate English, which was obtained from 20 respondents, the result is 75%, 5 student (25%) answered neither agree nor strongly disagree.

Hence for statements 3, I can translate English anytime and anywhere by using a digital dictionary. It collected from 20 respondents, the result is that 75% or 15 students answered

strongly agree that they can translate English anytime and anywhere by using a digital dictionary, 25% or 5 students answered disagreed or strongly disagreed.

To be able to learn a language thoroughly, many language learners choose dictionary as a learning tool. The use of dictionary is also included in language learning strategies. With the rapid development of technology, nowadays dictionary is also available in digital format in addition to the printed form. Therefore, the research team wanted to know the use of digital dictionaries from English learners, especially undergraduate students, where they usually are able to adapt quickly to technological advances. The use of digital dictionaries by students can be seen from the results of interview answers and also questionnaires that the research team distributed.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the discussion above, the research drew conclusions. Hence on the results of the research interviews with several randomly selected students, it can be concluded that they use a digital dictionary because it is easy to carry anywhere and easy to use. Even though there are obstacles in its use, such as the network is not good enough, its use must be online so that it requires internet quota and sometimes an inaccurate word translation. However there also some benefit that they get, starting from it is able to help learning English easier, helping with assignments and also translated difficult words wherever they are. When asked whether a digital dictionary can replace a printed dictionary, some answered yes because we have to keep up with technology developments but partly disagree with it because printed dictionaries can still be used especially in Indonesia where the internet network is not evenly distributed.

In addition, the results of the questionnaire from the indicators of student motivation in using a digital dictionary, it shows that the digital dictionary has been used properly in accordance with its role, such as to learn the language, especially English, to translate and to improve English knowledge. Based on the questionnaire results from the ease of using the digital dictionary, the questionnaire answers results were good, which stated that the digital dictionary was very easy to use in helping students learn English especially to find the meaning of difficult words. The results of questionnaire for the portability indicator of using a digital dictionary, good results are obtained where the digital dictionary can be carried and able to be used anywhere by using a smartphone as intermediary. This means that students do not need to carry a thick printed version of the dictionary.

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