

# CAN WATTPAD IMPROVE STUDENT READING SKILL?

Muhammad Reza Zulyansyah Santoso<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Ramadhan Rifa<sup>2</sup>, Bayu Adi Ardhana<sup>3</sup>,  
Indah Firah Nadiyah<sup>4</sup>, Irma Savitri Sadikin<sup>5</sup>

Program Studi Pendidikan Guru Sekolah Dasar, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan  
Universitas Esa Unggul Jalan Arjuna Utara no.9, Kebon Jeruk, Jakarta Barat – 11510

[Rezanes07@gmail.com](mailto:Rezanes07@gmail.com)

## ABSTRACT

*The rapid advancement of technology has an effect on many different aspects of the educational setting. Considering that many secondary school students enjoy reading on Wattpad, it might be one of the apps that teachers use to help their students develop their reading skills. Even if there are various doubts regarding this application, therefore, the purpose of this study is to determine, from the point of view of the students, whether or not Wattpad may assist learners to develop their reading skills. They were asked to fill out a questionnaire as part of qualitative descriptive research and the finding of this study revealed that most of students showed positive attitude toward the use of Wattpad to enhance their reading skill and they agreed that Wattpad was one of effective tools in reading activities.*

**Keyword :** *teaching, reading skill, wattpad*

## Introduction

Technology is so advanced right now, technology has been help us in any aspects. (Caena & Redecker,; Erstad et al. as cited in Lantz-Andersson et al., 2022) stated that during the last decade, there has been increased emphasis on the impact of the digitalisation of schooling both in research and in educational policies and reforms, in which teachers are positioned as key agents for developing students' digital competence. From this statement, the author do really curious about how technology can help people in improving their skills in school? When the author conducting this studies, the author found the answer is yes. By technology called smartphones there are so many application to help teacher teach their students.

According to (Perry, as cited in Llema & Vilela-Malabanan, 2019) said because of the affordances of the mobile device, it is used intensively in education. Since covid-19 pandemic, technology have used intensively in education to keep the teaching activities continued and the using of the technology have a good result. The technology increases the effectiveness of the learning environment because the students think the learning method is more familiar to them and not boring since they almost use their device for 24 hours straight. (Llema & Vilela-Malabanan, 2019)

state that Mobile learning emerges as a new learning approach that uses mobile devices to support the process of learning. From this statement the author wanted to know what kind of features that the device can be a media to improve students learning skills

According to (Ghani et al., 2012) Reading skill is one of the four basic language competencies essential in any language acquisition. It is an extension from the skills of writing, listening and speaking. (Syamsiyah Furotun et al., 2021) state that reading activities are the process of assimilating knowledge, understanding and evaluation abilities. From reading habits, a person can have broader horizons of knowledge, increase creativity, increase imagination, advance thought and make someone intelligent and intellectual. From this theory, reading skills can be a measurement how succeed technology improvement in educational world are so the author took reading skill to be a indicator that technology can be a media of learning activities. To measure the technology, the author use a phone application called wattpad that often used by students to entertain themselves reading stories in it and indirectly they might be increased their reading skills.

Wattpad is a online reading platform that already been created since 2006 and until now the application is still exist and famous along

teenagers. The user of the application can freely read a story or publish their story on the application and everyone is free to download this application from play store or appstore from their device. From these statement, watsapp is have a good effect on everyone because everyone can freely share and create their creativity to everyone in the application. This application contain so various genre of story from teen fiction, poetry, action, and more. A question arises in the mind of the author “do this application is useful to students?”.

**Research Question**

This study was committed to find out an answer to this several question :

1. What Are Student Point Of View Toward The Use of Watsapp to Enhance Reading Skills

**Methods**

The research using qualitative descriptive to collect how effective Watsapp improving students reading skills, by collecting 10 high school students point of view about application called watsapp by filling google forms that already created by the author because high school students love to read stories in watsapp

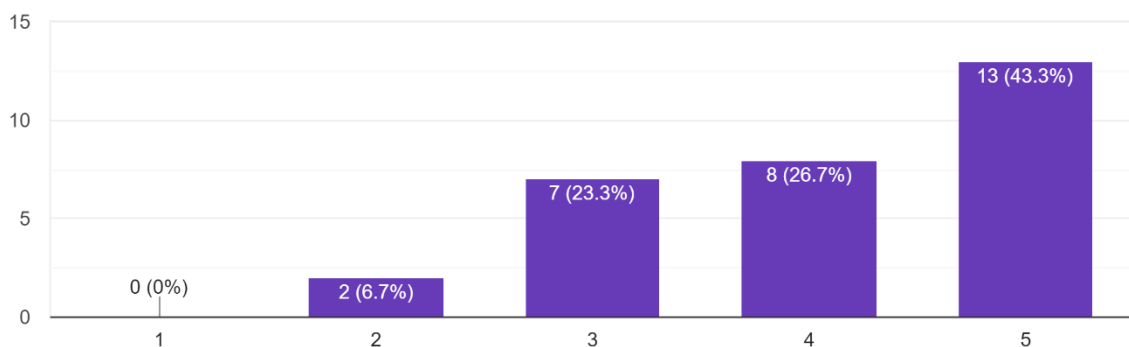
since there is so many teen fiction story. This methods aims to collect how much watsapp can improve students reading skills by their honest opinion about this application.

**Results And Discussion**

Based on the result of the research, it is known that watsapp can be improving students English reading skills and interest of high school students. This can be a prove of a technology can be a media to improve students educational skills and should be used by several teacher to teach them to increase their literature skills. The indicator of the result is some students agreed that their reading skills is increasing while they reading watsapp because watsapp contain interesting and entertaining reading materials than educational books.

Some respondents stated their opinion about using watsapp as the media of their learning, some of them is agree because watsapp is entertaning so they can learn while having fun and some of them is not agree at all because they easily distracted by the story so they did not focused on improving their skill because they thinking of the story more than thinking of the benefit they could have.

I Am More Easier To Understand English Words On Watsapp  
30 responses

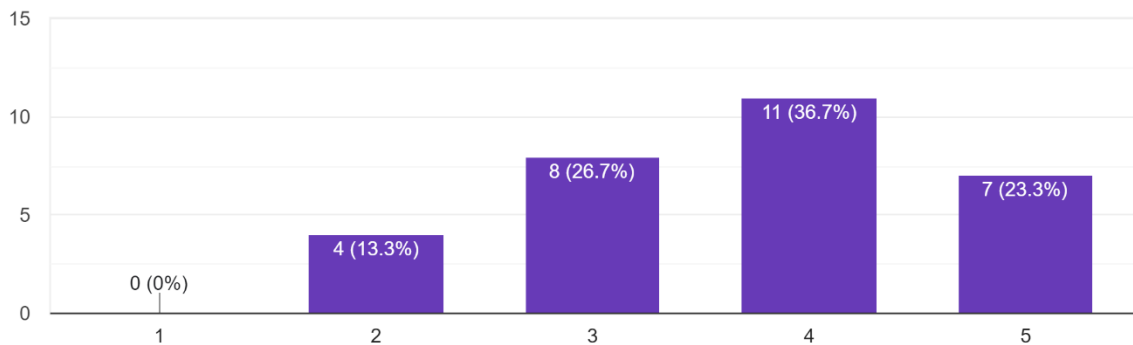


First question that asked are “ do they easier to understand the unfamiliar words on watsapp. 56.5% respondents agreed that Watsapp help them to understand and found familiar words. According to research by

(Setiyadi et al., 2019) an online magazine had an effect on students comprehension skills. There is only 6,7% that do not agree they understand the unfamiliar words in watsapp, they usually skip unfamiliar words.

### Wattpad Can Make My English Skill Better

30 responses

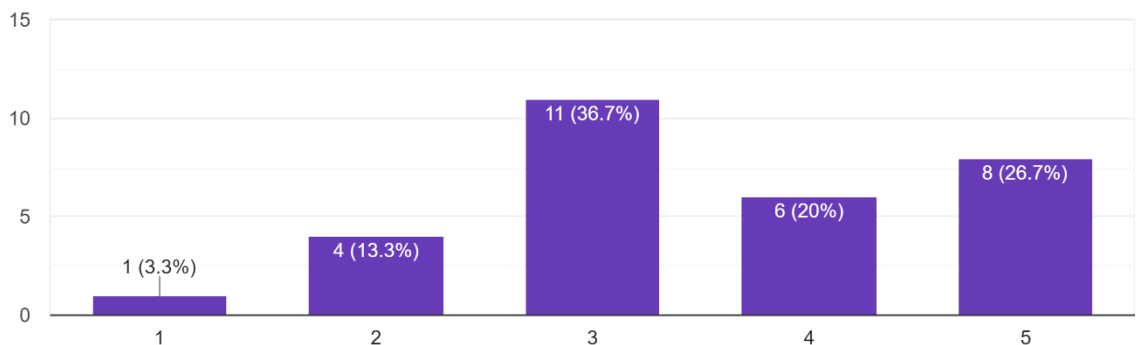


The second question that asked is about “Wattpad can make their English skills better than before”. 41,5% of respondents answers that they are agree and very agree, 26,7% neutral and 13,3% are disagree. Some of the respondent

said when they read the stories, they usually comprehend deeply the words so they think it makes their English skills better while the other respondent said wattpad are improve their skills proficiency. According to blablablalbalb

### Wattpad Can Make My English Skill Faster Than Educational Books

30 responses

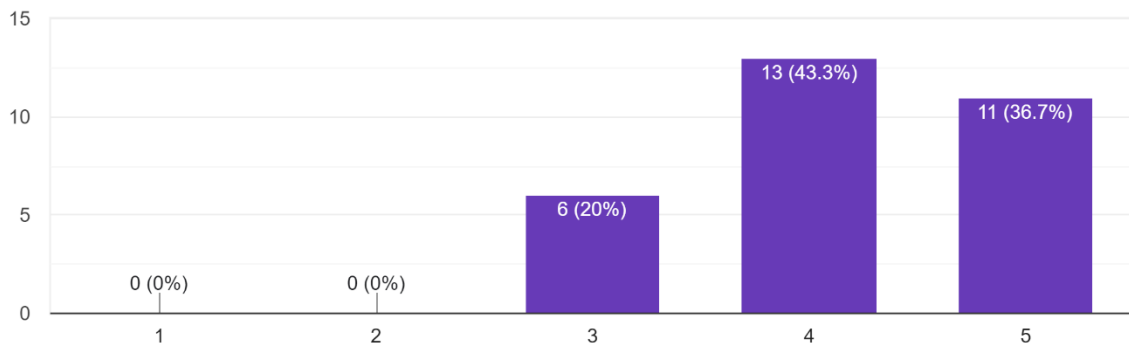


The third question is about “wattpad can make their English skills improving than educational books”. In this question state that 37% are agree that wattpad make English skill faster to understand, 36,7% are doubt about the efficiency of Wattpad can make English faster to understand, and 16,6% are disagree with the question, the authors contact persons that did

not agree and the respondent said they agree about wattpad can be a media to learn English but for those who disagree are stated that wattpad is only for entertaining purpose not for educational purposes, while those who agree are stated that wattpad not only for entertain purpose but it also can be for educational purpose.

### I Agree That If Wattpad Stories Can Be A Media To Learning English

30 responses



The fourth question is “do the respondents agree that wattpad stories can be a media to learn English?” . According to (Karimah, 2019.), Wattpad can be a media for teaching because wattpad have many features so the teacher can easily choose topic through the application. 58,5% respondents answered agree and totally agree also 20% respondents are doubt about wattpad as one of media to learn English. Some of the respondent said “in modern era, there must be an improving teaching style using a media like wattpad application.”. From these result above, almost everyone is agree of using wattpad as teaching material or media for the students because the technology become advanced so the teacher must use this advantages to enhance their teaching methodology and can increate learning interest among students in the classes by using wattpad stories as their material to teaching English skills especially reading skills.

### Conclusion

Technology becoming advanced and influence educational words to help teacher teach their students. According to (Perry, as cited in Llema & Vilela-Malabanan, 2019) said because of the affordances of the mobile device, it is used intensively in education. The purpose of this study is to find out are the affordances of a mobile device is really improving students education? The author took one of four important english skills “reading” to prove technology is does helping in students education

by analysing the use of the wattpad application on students.

All the research question is already found the answer. “What Are Student Point Of View Toward The Use of Wattpad to Enhance Reading Skills” and the answer is almost all of the students point of view show a good respond towards the use of wattpad to be a media to increase their reading skills.

There is one limitation of this study, since this study is conducted by only filling google form and students opinion about their using wattpad. There is still a gap about this study, there is no comparison about students readings skill before and after using wattpad so the further studies is needed to proving more detail that students reading skills really improving using wattpad.

### References

- Caena, F., & Redecker, C. (2019). Aligning teacher competence frameworks to 21st century challenges: The case for the European Digital Competence Framework for Educators ( Digcompedu) . *European Journal of Education*, 54(3), 356–369. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejed.12345>
- Erstad, O., Kjällander, S., & Järvelä, S. (2021). Facing the challenges of ‘digital competence’ a Nordic agenda for curriculum development for the 21st century. *Nordic Journal of Digital Literacy*, 16(2), 77–87.

<https://doi.org/10.18261/ISSN.1891-943X-2021-02-04>

- Ghani, S. Ab., Ahmad, S. Z. @ Hj., Hashim, U. H. Hj., Shaadon, Z., & Mustapa, N. S. (2012). Application of basic Skills in Reading Arabic Text for Teaching and Learning Maharat Al-Qiraah. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 59, 26–32.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2012.09.241>
- Karimah. (2019.). *THE USE OF WATTPAD APPLICATION IN TEACHING READING*.  
<https://www.academia.edu/41473523>
- Lantz-Andersson, A., Skantz-Åberg, E., Roka, A., Lundin, M., & Williams, P. (2022). Teachers' collaborative reflective discussions on technology-mediated teaching: Envisioned and enacted transformative agency. *Learning, Culture and Social Interaction*, 35, 100645.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lcsi.2022.100645>
- Llema, C. F., & Vilela-Malabanan, C. M. (2019). Design and development of MLERWS: A user-centered mobile application for English reading and writing skills. *Procedia Computer Science*, 161, 1002–1010.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2019.11.210>
- Perry, B. (2015). Gamifying French Language Learning: A Case Study Examining a Quest-based, Augmented Reality Mobile Learning-tool. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 174, 2308–2315.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.01.892>
- Setiyadi, R., Kuswendi, U., & Ristiana, M. G. (2019). Learning of Reading Comprehension through Reading Workshop in the Industry 4.0. *Mimbar Sekolah Dasar*, 6(2), 160.  
<https://doi.org/10.17509/mimbar-sd.v6i2.17397>
- Syamsiyah Furotun, N., Mustofa, M., Efendi, E., & Jamilah, N. (2021). THE USE OF WATTPAD IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND LEARNING: IS IT HELPFUL? In *JEASP Journal of English for Academic and Specific* (Vol. 4, Issue 1).