

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE?: A STRATEGY OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDENTS TO IMPROVE ENGLISH VOCABULARY

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### Abstract

*Vocabulary is one of the most important language components in learning the English language. A vocabulary is several English words that are taught to students in the teaching and learning process which goes hand in hand with all four English skills, especially listening. By increasing vocabulary, students' ability for better understanding in listening, speaking, reading, and writing will likely increase. The more they listen, the more words they will add to their mastering vocabulary. Moreover, many kinds of media may be used to exercise students' ability nowadays, which include music, video, movies, etc. English movies can provide a great chance for students to learn English vocabulary by listening. This could happen because in watching movies students often hear new words that they may never hear before. The instruments used were questionnaires and interviews. The result showed that by watching English Movie they could add some vocabularies to their memory through listening and watching the scene in the English Movie.*

**Keywords:** Vocabulary, English Movies, English Education

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## INTRODUCTION

To acquire English especially as a lingua franca (Pustika and Wiedarti, 2019), students need to master four English skills such as speaking, reading, listening, and writing. In Indonesia, English is a foreign language and it makes the teaching and learning process is not that easy although some students have learned English since they were in kindergarten (Oktaviani & Mandasari, 2020). If students want to proficient in English, they have to acquire as much English Vocabulary as they can because vocabulary is one of the most important components in English. According to Endarto and Subekti (2020) vocabulary is one of the most basic and important pillars in mastering English. The more words they pick up, the more he/she becomes proficient in that language. Thus, vocabulary is taught to students in the teaching and learning process at English Education of Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia, vocabulary became one of the compulsory subjects in their second semester (Pedoman Umum Penyelenggaraan Pendidikan FSIP, 2017). In learning vocabulary, students will also need to train their listening skills because vocabulary and listening go hand in hand. Hence, an interesting listening activity will be the best choice for acquiring vocabulary since it can provide interesting activity with the opportunity to learn some new words and to become familiar with recognizing the spoken forms of known words. By increasing vocabulary, students' ability for better understanding in listening, speaking, reading, and writing will likely increase. Oktaviani (2016) said that enhancing vocabulary mastery can increase university students' speaking skills.

The improvement of technology has brought diverse media that can be used as a method of gaining knowledge of English like Aminatun and Oktaviani (2019) said that technology usage can boost students' vocabulary mastery which covers spelling, pronunciation, and the usage of it in a sentence. Furthermore, many kinds of media may be used to exercise students' ability nowadays, which include music, video, movies, etc. One of the effective ways that have been used to encourage language students to develop their language competencies is through English movies (Albiladi et. al., 2018). Sharjeel & Dadabhoy (2013) stated that movie is animated graphics that contain color, and sound to capture and maintain student attention. They also added that students' emotions and behavioral adaptation strategy will get affected through the movie as emotions are presented in accessible ways. By watching English movie also make students easy to identify something new, such as students

can understand the vocabulary, recognize it immediately, and have the opportunity to “translate” movie life histories into their own lives.

Based on those above explanations, it is undeniable that English movies are one of the media that can be used to learn English. Khoshniyat and Dowlatabadi (2014) believe that the use of English movies can empower students with extensive vocabulary lists, syntax, and also other language skills that will enable them to improve their English proficiency. Al-Sarhan (2013) stated that watching movies can improve students’ vocabulary mastery. Furthermore, Sari (2017) stated by watching movies students are not only having interesting pictures to see, but students can also get and learn the values of life through the behavior and actions that exist in the movie. Besides that, watching English movies also could give other advantages such as English movies can keep students’ interest in learning English, improve students listening ability and also students can learn some new words and phrases used in English movies (Sari & Sugandi, 2015; Putra, 2012). These advantages will help students to acquire new vocabulary and idioms. Thus, English movies provide a great chance for students to learn English vocabulary by listening. Listening to the conversation in the movies can help students to learn English. Moreover, through listening, the students will get the information as to their first input for their knowledge. Then start to produce words or sentences by speaking as the first output, learn to read as the second input, and start to write as the second output and the advanced level (Putra, 2018).

Besides, according to Sharjeel & Dadabhoy (2013) movies provide a visual expression and present an effect of reality. With this effect of reality, the movie can provide students with natural and authentic English. With this natural and authentic English, students can acquire a lot of vocabulary that they may not be learned and heard at school or college. Furthermore, watching movies can also help the sensitivity of students in hearing, so it helps in improving student’s listening comprehension. Next, watching movies also helps students apprehend the meaning of a spoken language by seeing the scene and the expression of the actors in audio-visible form. For most students, movies are also an entertaining and motivating medium because they got entertained and at the same time, they could gain more vocabulary and improving their ability to listening. This accordance with the result of research conducted by Lestari (2018) she stated that using a movie to increase students’ vocabulary is an interesting and enjoyable activity where some students learned by doing their favorite activity which is watching the movie. The learning process became more interesting, fun, and more enthusiastic. Therefore, the researchers want to discover students’ opinions towards learning English vocabulary by watching English Movies.

## METHOD

In this study, a descriptive qualitative method was employed. This research was done through questionnaires and interviews. The subjects were students from the English Education Study Program of Faculty of Arts and Education in Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. In the questionnaire, researchers provided 5 questions to students that were distributed to the participants to collect their perspective data. After the researchers distributed the questionnaire, the researchers also continued with an interview.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The questionnaire consisted of two types of questions. There were yes-no questions and scale questions. The results of the questionnaire filled by English Education Students of Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia are presented below:

The first question is "Do you like watching English movies?". Of 27 people who filled out the questionnaire, 99.3% of them liked watching English movies while 6,7% of them don’t like to watch movies. It showed that almost all of the participants had a positive thought about watching English Movies.

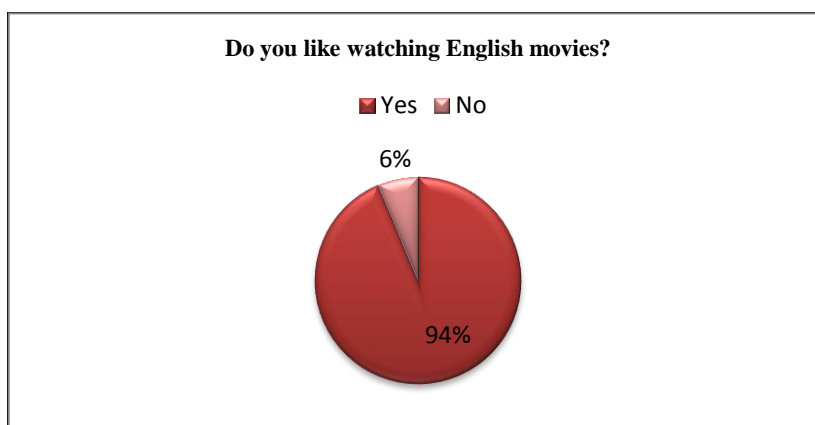


Figure 1. Students interest in English Movie

The second question is *How often do you watch English Movies?* By seeing the diagram below (Figure 2), it could be stated that only 4% of the participants were very rare in watching a movie while 44% of them were often watching a movie and 22% of them were frequently watching English movies. Then, it could be concluded that almost all of the participants were often watching English movies. The next question is *Do you think watching English movies could help you learn English?* (Figure 3). The data showed that all the participants (100%) agreed that while watching English movies, they could also learn English. This proof that by watching movies, students could gain new knowledge about the English Language.

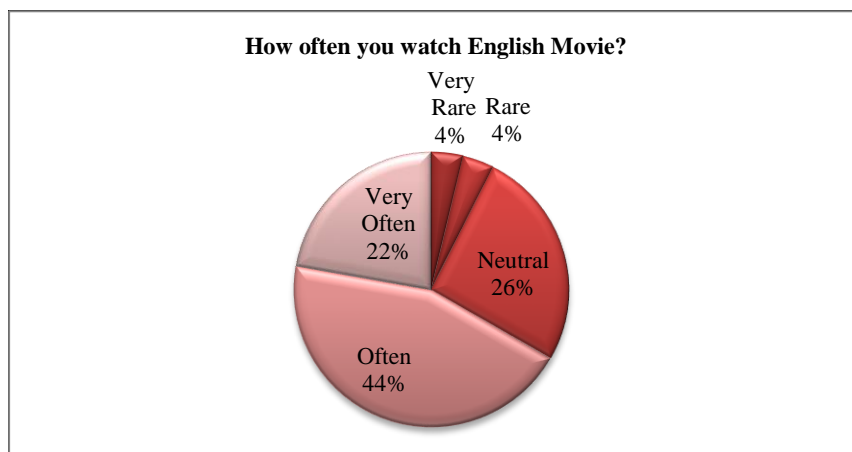


Figure 2. The frequency of students watching English Movies

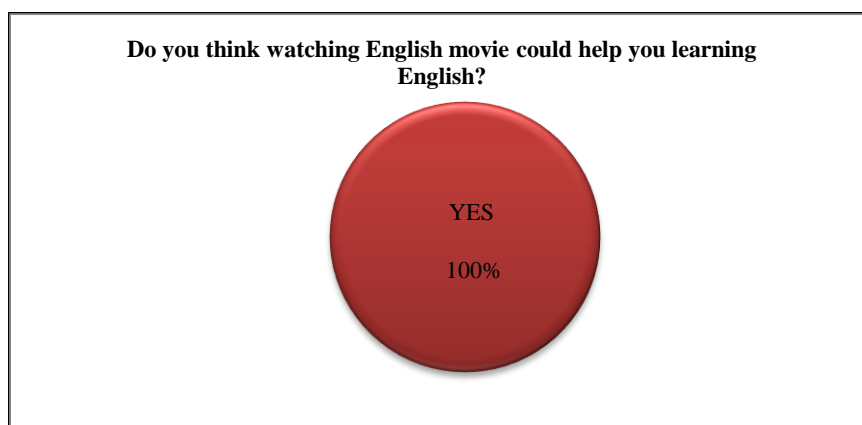


Figure 3 Students Opinion towards Learning English Through English Movies

The fourth question is *“Do you think watching English Movies could increase your vocabulary?”* (Figure 4). The result was the same as the previous question that all participants agreed by watching English Movies they could gain new vocabulary. This data showed that through watching English movies, students learned new words that they did not learn in school/college. The last question for the yes/no question is *“Do you think watching English Movie Improve your listening ability?”*(Figure 5). As stated before that watching movies also could help students in improving their listening ability, and by listening and watching the movies students will found new English words. The data below showed that 89% of the participants believed that by watching English movies they could improve their listening skills while 11 % of them disagreed with this statement. So, researchers could conclude that all participants agreed that by watching English Movies students could enhance their English Vocabulary and almost all the students could also improve their Listening skills through watching English Movies.

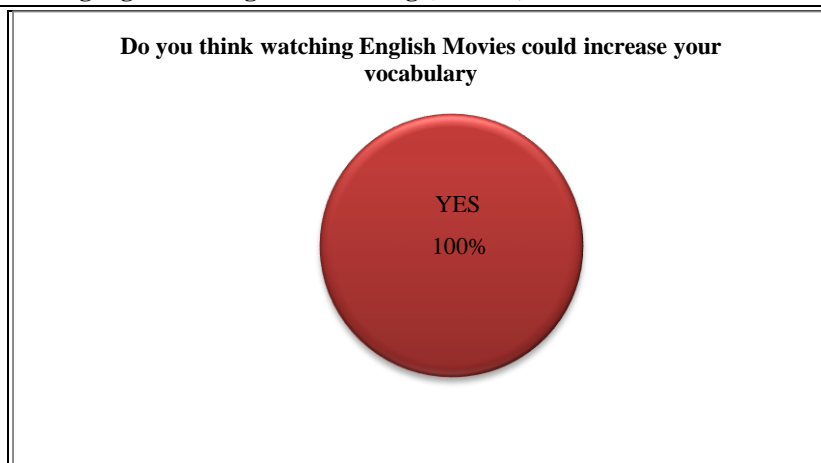


Figure 4. Students opinion toward increasing vocabulary through English Movie

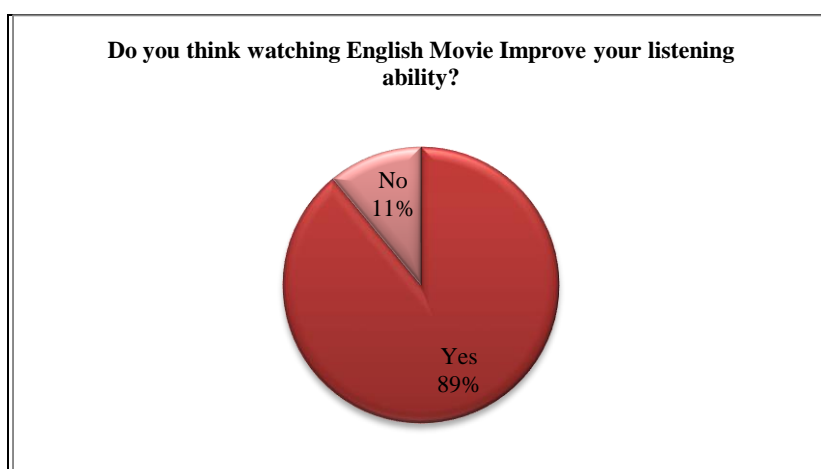


Figure 5. Students opinion watching English Movie toward the listening ability

However, to strengthen the results, all students were interviewed about why watching English Movies can help them in learning English. From the interview, it was found out that most students said by watching English Movies they often heard new words that they did not hear before. The following data described their reasons why watching English Movies helped them in learning English.

- SN .....I can learn many new words
- KS ..... I become accustomed to the English language
- N I have more vocabulary from the English movie.
- AM because in my opinion watching movies in English can help me to learn English
- EK ..... we can add to the vocabulary one by one even though the basic ones
- M Since I can get a new vocabulary by watching the movie and it makes me used to it.
- ETA Because I can get a lot of vocabulary
- N .....t can increase our vocab...
- RS Because listening, and read subtitles English, help a lot of people to learn English.
- YA Got a bunch of new words, can talk like a native speaker cause they often used kind of everyday language
- TA .....I know some new vocabulary.
- AY By watching the English movie, indirectly trigger me to understand the content. So, it means help me in learning English
- A Because I can learn from the conversation

GKS *because we could hear the word that we never hear before and that's word became our new vocabulary.*

AP *.....can make our vocabulary better and increase than before.*

Furthermore, watching English movies did not only help students to gain new vocabulary, but some of the participants also mentioned that watching English movies helped them in improving other English skills.

MAA *It will increase my listening skill and reading skill.*

SMS *Because it can enrich my vocabulary and improve my listening skills. It can also help me to know how to pronounce certain words correctly. Those skills can be obtained better especially if we use English subtitles. Not only those skills but our grammar can be improved.*

N *.....t can increase my vocab, my listening skill, and the style of communication*

RS *Because listening, and read subtitles English, help a lot of people to learn English.*

TA *.....I know some new vocabulary and increase my skills in speaking and reading.*

EP *It improves my English both in listening and speaking*

AP *Because watching a movie in English can improve listening skills and can make our vocabulary better and increase than before.*

From all data above, researchers concluded that watching English Movies could help students in learning English. This could happen because in watching movies students often hearing new words that they might never hear before. They could also guess the meaning through the sentence, expression, and scene in the movies. The participants also said that the more they watched English movies, the more they got influence by the English Movies. The influence here is the way the actors or actresses speak and use them in sentences. Watching English movies also made the students accustomed to the English language. They also have added some vocabularies to their memory through listening and watching English Movies. The result of this research also showed that through watching movies students not only could gain more vocabulary but also could improve other skills like Listening Skills.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the finding that already discussed above, the researchers pointed out the following two conclusions: (1) Students could enhance their vocabulary by watching English movies because they often found new vocabulary from the movie, and (2) Students could learn English by watching English movies. The more they watch English movie, the easier they learn English because when they watch a movie they could learn the language not only from listening activity but also from the scene and expression of the actors/actresses in the movies

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## **BIOGRAPHY OF AUTHORS**



Marta Widiawitasari Br Simamor currently is an active student in the English Education study program, Faculty of Arts and Education, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. During her study, she actively joins the students' organization. She has achieved some regional and national achievements, such as the top ten national teaching media competition in Pekan Pendidikan Generasi Hebat 2018 in Universitas Muhammadiyah Makasar, Top ten national essay competition in LEN PPI 2018, and she also became the Most Active Female of Faculty of Arts and Education 2019. She also obtained a Copyright from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights in 2018 for *Fun Fishing Game*.



Lulud Oktaviani is an English Education Lecturer in Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia (UTI). Besides teaching, she is also active in joining as a presenter at national and international conferences and publishing her research in proceedings and journals. Her research interest is teaching media, English teaching, and learning, English as a second language. Moreover, she also has obtained funding from the Directorate of Research and Community Service in Higher Education five times for *Penelitian Dosen Pemula (PDP)* and *Program Kemitraan Masyarakat (PKM)*.