Mobile learning contribution in improving the understanding of news item text generic structure

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Abstract. Mobile learning is a technological innovation that packs teaching material so it can be accessed any time with interesting material visualization. The use of interactive learning media has a major contribution to changes in the process of delivering information. This study aimed to represent the contribution of mobile learning in improving the understanding of the generic structure of the news item texts. The research method used in this study was the quasi-experimental method with Non-equivalent Control Group design. Questionnaire data collection techniques and tests were used to determine the effectiveness of Mobile Learning in improving the respondents’ skills to understand the generic structure of the news item texts. The increased understanding of the text could be known by analysing and classifying respondents' understanding of the main events, the context of the event, and the sources of information contained in news item texts. The results of the study showed that the use of mobile learning was effective in conveying information so as to increase the understanding of respondents in understanding the generic structure of the news item texts. In the digitalization era, mobile learning can be used as a medium to convey knowledge and information in both formal and informal ways.

1. Introduction

The era of digitalization that has taken place at this moment has placed the community in the midst of the world of media. Every day numerous news fills every people's life. This new media era has marked the substitution of the printed media by the online media which makes the public easier to access for information. The news item text circulating in the community can change the mindset and behavior patterns. Therefore, the community is required to decode the message or information from a news item text.

News item text is a text that contains reportage of an event that has important elements that must exist, namely what, when, where, why, who and how (5W + 1H). This type of text has several characteristics, including actuality, important values, benefits, informative, emotive, and interesting. Thus, a particular learning is needed to improve the ability to understand the generic structure of a news item text so that respondents can easily understand the message or information contained in it.

To make it effective to convey the abstract material of generic structure of a news item text, it is required for the educator to use the right learning media. That way, this ability can empower the community, both in academic aspects and social skills. The use of appropriate learning media can make it easier for people to achieve learning goals effectively and efficiently. This is because the learning media has communicative functions, motivation, meaningfulness, equal perception, and individuality.
Multimedia can help students to learn and develop analytical skills and conclusion withdrawal of a subject matter [1].

The five functions mentioned above are found in Mobile Learning (ML) media. ML is a learning approach that involves moving devices / devices such as cellphones, PDAs, laptops, androids and tablets. With this tool learners can access material, direction and applications related to learning without being limited by space and time. ML is a learning media that utilizes information and communication technology whose concepts benefit from the availability of teaching materials that can be accessed at any time and has interesting material visualization [2]. ML has the capacity to improve learning motivation and communication by utilizing mobile devices [3]. Besides that, ML also concerns about social aspects so the development of this technology must be in line with social technology as a result of cultural activity and history theory [4].

The use of ML is expected to overcome the difficulties of the respondents in understanding the generic structure of news item texts. In this study, the researchers aimed to determine the benefits of the use of Mobile Learning (ML) in improving the understanding of news item text generic structures that includes the main event, the context of the event, and the sources of information contained in a news item text.

2. Research method

The research method used in this study was the quasi-experimental method. The research design used was Nonequivalent Control Group Design with a purposive sampling technique. The researchers used questionnaire data collection techniques and tests to determine the effectiveness of Mobile Learning in improving the respondents’ skills to understand the generic structure of the news item texts.

3. Results and discussion

After testing and analyzing the data, the researcher obtained the following results which can be seen in table 1 below.

| Number of Respondents | Control Class | Experimental Class |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
|                       | Average      | S                 | Average      | S            |
| Pre-test              | 30           | 47,03              | 7,38         | 45,07        | 8,44         |
| Post-test             | 30           | 58,40              | 8,35         | 67,00        | 7,72         |
| N-Gain                | 30           | 0,21               | 0,17         | 0,39         | 0,15         |

| Ideal Maximum Score: 100 |

Based on table 1 above, the use of ML contributes to a significant increase in respondents’ understanding of the generic structure of news item texts. The average for the control class increases for 11.37 points, while the experimental class average is increased by 21.93. The part of generic structure of the news item text which experiences a significant increase is the context of the event, as shown in the figure 1 below.
Figure 1. Increased understanding of the aspects of the generic structure of news item text.

Based on figure 1 above, the Main Event aspect in news item text (title, lead, text structure) increase by 3.75, the Context of the Event (background, participants, time, place, and procedure) 4.5, and the Source of Information (expression, character statements, references) 2.25. The results of this study indicated that the suitability of the theory and results of the research which showed ML had beneficial role as one of the learning media that can provide positive impacts or influence on increasing respondents' learning motivation. This motivation is built through the establishment of positive psychological relationships, both between instructors and respondents, also between respondents and respondents. This is consistent with the characteristics of new technological developments that can help respondents build structures through learning communication [5].

This is because ML has four types of pedagogical frameworks [6], as figure 2 shown, namely 1) activity as a unit of analysis; 2) communication technology as a mediating tool for individual activities and socialization; 3) balance individual and social roles; and 4) transactional distance theory.

Figure 2. Four types of mobile learning: A pedagogical framework [6].

Furthermore, ML had beneficial effects for the respondents including improving concentration, developing interest, providing motivation to learn to be more fun and produce a higher understanding of the learning process. Furthermore, ML will make the learning process sustainable, both mastery of knowledge and experience [7]. Therefore, by integrating the use of ML in the learning environment it will broaden the knowledge of respondents to understand the generic structure of the text and improve
the accessibility of respondents. This is in line with one of the ML characteristics which can be used to solve dualism problem, such as individual and group or respondents’ subjectivity and objectivity in activity theory [8].

ML will provide a natural and more flexible way to learn as it will use the main component of each learning environment involved. ML media can also improve communication between teachers and respondents, so that learning can create a mutual relationship [9]. This has an effect on students' learning motivation which increases because they have better self-confidence and are more active in learning.

Moreover, the use of ML media has the capacity to improve communication, resources, and speed of feedback [10]. This makes respondents have more motivation and interest when using ML in understanding the generic structure of the news item text, both aspects of the main events, context of events, and sources of information contained in the news item text.

4. Conclusion
The results of the study showed that Mobile Learning (ML) has a contribution to improve the ability to understand the respondents’ understanding of the news item text structure. It can increase the effectiveness of materials delivery because the materials can be accessed without the limitation of time and space. Besides that, ML has interesting way to visualize the materials too. In capturing the delivery of generic structure material, respondents were positioned as learning centers.

Some important capabilities that must be provided by ML devices are the ability to connect to other equipment, especially cellphones and computers, the ability to present learning information, and the ability to realize bilateral communication between educators and learners. Moreover, ML will increase the learners' attention to learning material, make learning become persuasive, and can encourage learners' motivation in lifelong learning.

The increase occurs in all aspects of the generic structure of the news item text. Sequentially, the aspects that increased are 1) the aspects of the context of event which include the ability to elaborate on the background of the news item text, participants, time, and place of events; 2) the aspects of the main event which include the use of short sentences, news leads, events contained in the headline; and 3) the aspect of information sources which include procedures for using expressions and statements of a character or participant in a news item text.

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