

# KAMUSKU APPLICATION AS A MEDIA IN READING ONLINE ENGLISH NEWS

*by Dosen UWP*

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## 4 KAMUSKU APPLICATION AS A MEDIA IN READING ONLINE ENGLISH NEWS

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### ABSTRACTS

4  
This study aims to find out the students' perceptions in using the application of the English Dictionary "Kamusku" as a media in reading online English news can make them feel more easier in learning vocabulary and understand the English online news well. This study uses a qualitative study with open ended questionnaires, The instruments used 4 this method are questionnaires question. This research was conducted on first semester students of English Literature at Wijaya Putra University. The results of the study obtained that the application of the English Dictionary "Kamusku" as a media in reading Online English News had a positive and significant effect on increasing students' English vocabulary to comprehend in reading the online English News.

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### INTRODUCTION

English should be important to people because it has a big impact on our daily lives. We even want to read English News online in order to stay up to date on news from around the globe. When reading news articles written in English, it's important to understand the meaning of each word so that we can interpret the news's overall meaning in light of its various contexts. There should be some resources available to aid in quickly and easily determining the meaning of an English phrase in Indonesian. One tool for quickly and easily translating English words into Indonesian is the *Kamusku* Application. Vocabularies are the name given to the words in those applications. It also has to do with the requirement that students increase their vocabulary in class. They may learn many new words by reading English news online. Therefore, we need to understand how the students perceive using the *Kamusku* dictionary application in their daily lives.

We frequently think that reading on their own will teach students enough vocabulary. People with vocabulary below grade level, according to James Scott, almost never notice. Along with Indonesian, Japanese, French, and other languages, vocabulary is an important part of learning a language. Writing, speaking, and listening are other methods of learning vocabulary in addition to reading. We daily expanded our vocabularies by participating in a variety of activities. One of the most challenging aspects of learning a language is learning vocabulary. People are unable to express their thoughts or understand what other people are saying if they have a limited vocabulary. Little can be said without grammar, but nothing can be said without vocabulary, according to Wilkins' (1972) observation. When students 5 we trouble understanding words that are unfamiliar to them, some teachers advise them to look

up the literal meanings of those words, while other teachers prefer that their students infer the meanings of words from the context in which they are used. This is according to Kam-man Iu. To look up the unfamiliar vocabulary words in dictionaries seems to be a more direct way to remove barriers in the reading process. However, it seems that exploring the word meaning from context requires more active participation from the learner than using a dictionary and incorporating the meaning into the reading passage. When using a dictionary and incorporating the meaning into the text, it seems that learners participate in the reading passage with comparatively less active participation.

In this digital era, there are so many dictionaries application that can be downloaded freely in play store especially on smartphone to make Second Language Students are easier to understand what they read in online English news. The dictionary application that the writer used in this research is *Kamusku Dictionary*. *Kamusku Dictionary* is an offline application created by Kodelokus, a software company in Bandung. Jl. Sharon Raya Utara No. 29, Grand Sharon Residence, District Rancasari, Cipamakolan, Rancasari, Santosa, and Andriyadi: Use of My Dictionary. 37 Bandung, West Java 40292 (SampaiJauhCom, 2020). My Dictionary Application is a free app available in the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store that allows users to easily and quickly search the English vocabulary.

As a tool for language learning, dictionaries are extremely helpful in explaining terms. A dictionary is a book that lists words from different languages in alphabetical order along with details about the words' pronunciation, definitions, and other details. An ideal dictionary would also include information on word status, word areas of use, word fragments, word origins, whether a word is standard or not, archaic and classic words, information on word usage patterns, and various other topics.

The dictionary is a collection of words in a language that reflects the degree of civilization in the country that created it. "A dictionary is a book that provides information on word definitions." The dictionary is a reference work that includes words and expressions that are typically alphabetically arranged along with an explanation of their meanings. According to the definition of a dictionary given above, a dictionary is a book that lists words or terms in alphabetical order along with definitions and explanations. The type of media that is most commonly used in the current industrial revolution and the digital era is digital media. Android is the platform on which the currently under development application runs. Android is a software used on mobile devices (running devices) that includes operating systems, middleware, and core applications, according to Sugeng Purwantoro (2021). For smartphones and tablets, there is an operating system called Android. In order for users to interact with the device and run the applications that are on it, the operating system can be seen as a bridge between the device and its users.

The purpose of this study is to examine how students perceive the benefits and challenges of using the *Kamusku* applications on smartphones to read online English news. In light of the study's goals, the following research questions were developed: How do students perceive the challenges and opportunities presented by using the *Kamusku* dictionary apps to comprehend online English news?

Research on dictionaries application has been carried out by several researchers. Santoso & Andriyadi (2019) presents an overview that the use of dictionary application can improve the students' vocabulary and the writer using quantitative method in doing their research. Winestock & Jeong (2014) analysed of the smartphone app market the dictionary application is one of the most used by people over the world because it has some advantages in learning vocabulary in many languages especially English. Maulia & Amin (2023) researched to determine the effect of using U-Dictionary application on students' pronunciation mastery at the eleventh grade of SMK Negeri 1 Perbaungan. This research



used quantitative method with quasi-experimental design. Based on the research using U-Dictionary application can improve the students' pronunciation.

## RESEARCH METHOD

A study method known as qualitative research looks at and understands the significance of a group or individual affected by a social issue. An interpretive or theoretical framework that serves as a framework for the analysis of a research problem and concentrates on the meanings that individuals or groups attribute to social or human problems serve as the basis for qualitative research (Creswell, 2013).

### Research Design

The methodology for this study was descriptive qualitative research. It was based on research that looked at how English Literature Program first-semester students felt about using the *Kamusku* dictionary app. According to Sugiyono (2008), the phenomenon or method of data collection is referred to as "taking of the data naturally." In qualitative research, the researchers themselves are a key tool, and the direct source of data is nature.

### Population and Sample

The study was conducted at the English Literature Program Study, Faculty of English Literature, UPW (Universitas Wijaya Putra), Surabaya. In Surabaya, it was located at Jl. Raya Benowo Number 3. Students in the first semester of the English literature program who were taking the Vocabulary course participated in this study. There were a total of 10 subjects: 6 women and 4 men. The study included students who were alleged to have used the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in vocabulary lessons.

### Instruments

The main method used for the research was questionnaires. The guidelines developed to find out how students viewed the *Kamusku* Dictionary application as a medium to learn and understand online English news were the focus of the questionnaires. It was made up of five questions that addressed the subject and aimed to find out how the students felt about it. Two additional questions about the limitations and features of the *Kamusku* Dictionary application are also added.

### Data Analysis

By dispersing the questions, the researchers gathered the data. To learn how the students view the *Kamusku* dictionary application as a tool for learning and understanding online English news, researchers provide questions in the form of questionnaires. Paper sheets were used in this instrument. Five questions are on each of the paper sheets. The students' responses to the question would reflect their own original thought. The researcher is also interested in the capabilities and limitations of the *Kamusku* dictionary application. Paper sheets with two questions on each are also part of the instrument.

In order to gather information on structured data, questionnaires are frequently used tools. They can be administered without the researcher's presence and are frequently fairly simple to analyze (Cohen et al., 2018). One method of gathering data is through the use of a questionnaire, which offers a list of questions or written inquiries that respondents can respond to either directly or online (Sugiyono, 2013).

The scale questions with positive and negative perception statements from the closed-ended questionnaire were used by the researcher in this study. Three negative statements are balanced out by 24 positive ones. The Likert scale is one of the most well-liked forms of scaled questions. A psychometric scale known as the Likert scale is frequently used in studies that use questionnaires to measure social attitudes (Roopa & Rani, 2012). The Likert

scale, according to Djajanegara (2019), is a measuring device used to identify interests, attitudes, and behaviors.

Table 1  
Likert Scale

Levels		Scale	
		Positive	Negative
Strongly Disagree	SD	1	5
Disagree	D	2	4
Neutral	N	3	3
Agree	A	4	2
Strongly Agree	SA	5	1

## RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Research Findings

#### 1. Students' Perceptions on using *Kamusku* dictionary applications as a media in learning vocabularies and comprehending online English news

To find how students' perceptions about using the *Kamusku* dictionary app as a tool for vocabulary learning and understanding online English news. A five-item questionnaire was given out by the researcher. The outcome is shown in the table 2.

Table 2  
Student's Perceptions on Using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application  
as a Media to Learn and Comprehend Online English News

No	Statements	Frequency				
		SA	A	N	D	SD
1	<i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application can be used easily.	10 (65.7 %)	5 (35.3%)	-	-	-
2	I feel more fun when using <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News.	2 (14.3%)	9 (60%)	4 (26.7)	-	-
3	I can use <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application anytime and anywhere.	5 (33.3%)	7 (46.7%)	3 (20%)	-	-
4	I can improve my vocabulary ability when using <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application	1 (16.7%)	9 (60%)	5 (34.3%)	-	-
5	I feel motivated when using <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News.	1 (7.7%)	8 (53.3%)	6 (30%)	-	-

Based on table 2, the result of the first statement was 65.7 % of students perceive that they strongly agree with the question "can *Kamusku* dictionary application be used easily?" Meanwhile, 35.3% have students agreed on perception with the same question. The result of the second statement was 14.3% of students perceive that they strongly agree with the question "Do you feel more fun when using *Kamusku* dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News?". Meanwhile, 60% of students agreed on perception and 26.7% of students were neutral on that same question. The result of the third question "can I use *Kamusku* dictionary application anytime and anywhere?" was 33.3% of students perceived that they strongly agree with the question. Meanwhile, 46.7% of students agree perception, and 20% of students were neutral on the question. The result of the fourth question "can I improve my vocabulary ability when using *Kamusku* dictionary application?"

was 16.7% of students perceive that they strongly agree with that Question. Meanwhile, 60% of students agreed on perception, and 34.3% of students' were neutral with that statement. The result of the fifth question "Do I feel motivated when using *Kamusku* dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News?." was 7.7% of students perceived that they strongly agree with that same question. Meanwhile, 53.3% of students agreed on perception, and 30% of students were neutral on the question.

## 2. The Obstacles When Using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in Learning vocabulary to comprehend the Online English News Found By Students

To address the part of the goals of the research, which asks "What obstacles do the students face when using *Kamusku* dictionary application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news?" was answered using an open-ended questionnaire. Regarding the difficulties in learning vocabulary using the *Kamusku* dictionary app, there are two questions. The table 3 displays the results of the questionnaire.

Table 3  
The Obstacles When Using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in Learning Vocabulary to Comprehend the Online English News Found by Students

No	Students	Answer	
		Did you encounter any problems using the <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application to learn new words needed to understand online English news?	What challenges did you encounter while using the <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary app to learn vocabulary for reading online English news?
1	Student 1	yes	The dictionary give the note such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt) which do not explain the function.
2	Student 2	yes	If there is no internet connection or in the offline mode, <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary cannot match the sentence thoroughly.
3	Student 3	No	None
4	Student 4	No	None
5	Student 5	No	None
6	Student 6	yes	In the microphone icon, if we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly so that it does not represent the correct meaning.
7	Student 7	No	None
8	Student 8	No	None
9	Student 9	No	None
10	Student 10	No	None

The table 3 showed that the students faced some obstacles when using *Kamusku* dictionary application. They are first, students do not know the function and the use of the code such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt). Second, if the students only use the offline mode, *Kamusku* dictionary cannot match the sentence thoroughly. Third, if we press the microphone button then we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly *Kamusku* dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly so that it does not represent the correct meaning.

### 3. The Facility When Using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in Learning vocabulary to comprehend the Online English News Found By Students

To address the part of the goals of the research, "What facilities do the students face when using *Kamusku* dictionary application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news?" an open-ended questionnaire was used. Regarding the tools for learning vocabulary using the *Kamusku* dictionary app, there are two questions. The table below displays the results of the questionnaire:

Table 4  
The Obstacles When Using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in Learning Vocabulary to Comprehend The Online English News Found By Students

No	Students	Answer	
		Did you find the facility when learning vocabulary to understand the English news online using the <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application?	What benefits did you experience from using the <i>Kamusku</i> dictionary application to learn vocabulary to understand English news articles online?
1	Student 1	yes	This dictionary application can be used by offline.
2	Student 2	yes	This dictionary application can match the sentence thoroughly if there is internet connection.
3	Student 3	yes	The dictionary give the note such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt) to help the student to make sentence after learning grammar subject.
4	Student 4	yes	Students can translate long sentences in one time by tapping the words in the space provided.
5	Student 5	yes	Students can translate long sentences in one time by pressing the microphone icon and pronouncing the words correctly.
6	Student 6	yes	The speaker icon can produce the sound in reading the sentence which is typed in the space provided in two languages which are English and Indonesia.
7	Student 7	yes	This application can be changed of the form of language become Indonesian = English or English = Indonesian
8	Student 8	yes	There is shared icon which can be used to share the translation result to another social media provided for instances whatsapp, facebook messenger, instagram and another platforms.
9	Student 9	yes	It contains of the sentence examples.
10	Student 10	yes	The meaning translation can be copy and paste in the form of word.

The table 4 that displayed the features and benefits that students receive from the *Kamusku* dictionary application can make it more enjoyable and simple for students to read

the English news that is published online on a daily basis while also enhancing their vocabulary and text comprehension skills.

## Discussion

### 1. Student's perceptions on using *Kamusku* dictionary applications as a media in learning vocabularies and comprehending online English news

The first finding from the students' perceptions of using the *Kamusku* dictionary app as a tool for learning vocabulary is that it is simple to use. According to the data, 65.7% of students believe that the statement "*Kamusku* dictionary application can be used easily" is true. Meanwhile, 35.3% of students believe that statement to be true, with the overall percentage being 100%. It indicates that pupils had favorable perceptions. You could say that every student thinks the *Kamusku* dictionary app is simple to use.

The second finding is that students believe that using the *Kamusku* dictionary application as a tool for vocabulary learning makes learning more enjoyable. The claim that "I feel more fun when using *Kamusku* dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News" demonstrated this. Students who say they strongly agree with that statement are 26.7% of the class. While 14.3% of students are neutral and 60% of students agree with that statement. It follows that the majority of students find it more enjoyable to learn vocabulary by using the *Kamusku* dictionary application to read and understand online English news

By using this application, the third result of the students' perceptions of the *Kamusku* dictionary application as a tool for vocabulary learning can be enhanced. The percentage of students who strongly agree with the statement "I can improve my vocabulary ability when using *Kamusku* dictionary application" is 16.7%. In contrast, (60%) of students agree with that perception, while (34.3%) of students are ambivalent about it. This indicates that the majority of students view the *Kamusku* dictionary application as a tool for expanding their vocabulary and understanding online English news.

The fourth finding from how the students felt about using the *Kamusku* dictionary app as a tool for learning vocabulary at any time and anywhere. The fact that 16.7% of students strongly agree with the statement "I can use *Kamusku* dictionary application anytime and anywhere" demonstrated this. While only 20% of students disagree with the statement, 46.7% of students agree with it. In order to learn vocabulary for reading and understanding online English news, the majority of students can use the *Kamusku* dictionary application whenever and wherever they like.

The fifth finding reflects how the students feel about using the *Kamusku* dictionary app as a tool for learning vocabulary. As evidenced by the statement, "I feel motivated when using the *Kamusku* dictionary application to learn vocabulary and comprehend the online English News." 7.7% of students believe they strongly agree with that assertion. While only 30% of students are neutral about the statement, 53.3% of students agree with it. This indicates that the majority of students are inspired to learn vocabulary when using the *Kamusku* dictionary application to read and comprehend online English news at any time or place.

### 2. The obstacles when using *kamusku* dictionary application in learning vocabulary to comprehend online English news found by students

The second goal of this research is to describe the obstacles found when using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news. The obstacles that students found when learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news were that it has some notes such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt) which do not explain the function, If there is no internet connection or in the offline mode, *Kamusku* dictionary

cannot match the sentence thoroughly, and In the microphone icon, if we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly *Kamusku* dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly so that it does not represent the correct meaning.

The first issue that students encountered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand online English news is that some of the notes in this program such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt)—do not explain how they work. The notes included in that application do not go into as much detail about the explanation as kb, ks, kki, kkt, fkk, and fkkt. the user cannot utilize those notes effectively as a result. When asked about the challenges of using this application, Student 1 responded in the questionnaires as it was mentioned there.

The second outcome of the difficulties that students encountered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the online English news is that *Kamusku* Dictionary cannot completely match the sentence if there is no internet connection or when using the offline mode. Therefore, if users want to understand the full meaning of a lengthy sentence, they must always be online.

In the microphone icon, if we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly, *Kamusku* dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly, so it does not represent the correct meaning. This is the third effect of the challenges that students encountered when using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the online English news. In order to get an accurate translation, users must carefully type the words or sentences.

### 3. The facilities when using *kamusku* dictionary application in learning vocabulary to comprehend online english news found by students

The third goal of this research is to describe the facilities found when using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news. The results of the facilities that students found when using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news is that This dictionary application can be used by offline, This dictionary application can match the sentence thoroughly if there is internet connection, The dictionary give the note such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt) to help the student to make sentence after learning grammar subject, Students can translate long sentences in one time by tapping the words in the space provided, Students can translate long sentences in one time by pressing the speaker button and pronouncing the words correctly, In the microphone icon, if we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly *Kamusku* dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly so that it does not represent the meaning correctly, This application can be changed of the form of language become Indonesian = English or English = Indonesian, The students are also can learn how to pronounce correctly by listening the speaker button, It contains of the sentence example, and The meaning translation can be copy and paste in the form of word.

The ability to use the dictionary application offline is the first benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the English news that is available online. For English language learners who are unable to connect to the internet but can still access it, even just word by word, it is very helpful.

The second benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand online English news is that, provided there is an internet connection, the dictionary application can accurately match the sentence. This is the most convenient method for discovering the vocabulary meaning in lengthy sentences because it can be translated completely in a single step rather than word by word, but it requires constant internet connectivity.

The dictionary provides the note such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkki; fkkt) to help the student to make sentences after learning grammar subject, which is the third benefit that students discovered when using *Kamusku* Dictionary Application in learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news. These notes are useful in determining whether certain words belong to the word classes of noun, transitive verb, intransitive verb, adjective, adverb, and preposition, all of which are crucial for grammatically correct sentence construction.

Students can translate lengthy sentences at once by tapping the words in the space provided, which is the fourth benefit they discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand online English news. If the users type complete sentences in the space provided correctly, this application can help English language learners feel comfortable and have fun because they can quickly understand the meaning of a sentence's vocabulary.

The ability to translate lengthy sentences at once by selecting the microphone icon and giving the words the proper pronunciation is the fifth benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the English news that is posted online. It is simpler to understand the meaning of a long sentence using English vocabulary without typing it in the space provided, but it can be challenging if the learner's pronunciation is incorrect. If we do not pronounce the words or sentences properly, the microphone icon won't be able to recognize them and won't accurately convey their meaning. This implies that the learner's pronunciation skills in English must be resilient.

The speaker icon can make a sound when reading the sentence that is typed in the space that is provided in two languages, Indonesian and English, which is the sixth benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the online English news. By repeating the sound, it can also assist the learner in pronouncing every word correctly.

The seventh benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand online English news is that this program can change the language's form so that Indonesian becomes equal to English or vice versa. This feature is beneficial because it makes it simple for English language learners to translate vocabulary from English to Indonesia or the other way around by tapping the appropriate icon's switching button.

The shared icon that can be used to share the translation result to another social media platform, such as Whatsapp, Facebook Messenger, Instagram, and others platforms, is the eighth benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the online English news. The learner may find it beneficial to translate their initial thoughts from Indonesian, their mother tongue, into English. Because they can easily and correctly share their English writing in their social media, doing it this way gives them a sense of confidence and fun.

The ninth benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the English news online is that it includes sentence examples. Since the learner can see an example of the word being used in a sentence, it might help in their understanding of each English word they come across.

The ability to copy and paste the meaning translation in the form of a word is the tenth benefit that students discovered when using the *Kamusku* Dictionary Application to learn vocabulary to understand the online English news. This feature is beneficial because it allows English language learners to copy text and paste it onto a different screen, like Microsoft Word, so they can save it and review it later.

## CONCLUSION

This study demonstrated that students' perceptions were favourable. Because it is useful and has the potential to help students increase their vocabulary ability, it could be said that all of the students believe that the *Kamusku* dictionary application is simple to use to understand the online English news. It supported and helped students in learning independently whenever and wherever they wanted to as additional learning media.

In learning vocabulary to comprehend the online English news using *Kamusku* dictionary application as a media delivers some obstacles and also many facilities. The obstacles that students encountered when learning vocabulary using *Kamusku* dictionary applications are for the first, students do not know the function and the used of the code such as (kb; ks; kki; kkt; fkk; fkkt). Second, if the students only use the offline mode, *Kamusku* dictionary cannot match the sentence thoroughly. Third, if we press the microphone button then we do not pronounce the words or sentences correctly *Kamusku* dictionary cannot detect the writing correctly so it does not represent the correct meaning.

There are numerous benefits to using the *Kamusku* dictionary application as a tool for learning vocabulary and understanding online English news. The easiest tool to use to learn English vocabulary and understand online English news is the *Kamusku* dictionary application, one of the ten facilities listed in Table 4. Therefore, downloading this application is highly advised in order to help English learners understand many passages, particularly online English news. And it will be consistent with the growth of English vocabulary.

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# KAMUSKU APPLICATION AS A MEDIA IN READING ONLINE ENGLISH NEWS

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