Chapter 32

PizzaHoot

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ABSTRACT

A part of speech is a term used in the traditional grammar for one of the nine main categories into which words are classified according to their functions in sentences such as nouns and verbs. It is also known as word classes and these are the building blocks of grammar. In Malaysia the lower secondary students are tested on the parts of speech in their PT3 reading paper (pemahaman). Therefore, a study has been carried out to improve problems faced by students in mastering parts of speech. A study is conducted to help students answering error identification questions which focuses on parts of speech. Students in lower secondary are unable to score high marks for this section in their Paper 1 PT3 under the new format aligned with CEFR. This study involves 100 participants selected from three different school with mixed abilities. One of the reasons why students could not score high marks for Part 2 of Paper 1 is because they are weak at identifying the correct word class. PizzaHoot is identified as an effective way to improve students’ mark in answering error identification questions. PizzaHoot helps students to learn parts of speech in a fun way by using attractive teaching aids. The aim of this study is to find out how PizzaHoot develops students’ understanding on parts of speech. Participants in this study learn grammatical items with teachers’ guidance by answering questions related to each part of speech. A pre-test and post-test are conducted using Kahoot to gather information on their performance especially on parts of speech. The finding shows that using PizzaHoot has improved the students’ level of understanding on parts of speech. It is hoped that the finding of this study could help other teachers to have some insight on how to answer error identification questions.

Key Words: PizzaHoot, Grammar, CEFR, PT3 Reading Paper.
1. INTRODUCTION

Teaching grammar in isolation has always been debated in ESL teaching and learning in schools even in the 21st century learning. Current education system integrates the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) aligned with Malaysian Curriculum for primary and secondary schools. It is expected that the proficiency among young learners to improve gradually. Grammar is one of the important aspects of language learning where grammar is defined as a generalization in linguistics features, which forms a system of the language (Kapatsinski, 2014). Young ESL learners still face complications in learning it (Misbah, Mohamad, Yunus & Ya’acob, 2017). Therefore, this study aims to investigate the effectiveness of using PizzaHoot in improving Malaysian’s secondary school students’ English Grammar.

Issues

English language is regarded as a medium in communication and is the second language in Malaysia. Many issues related to the teaching and learning of the language is always highlights to emphasis its importance. A significant part of acquiring the language happens in classroom. According to Asif (2018) students need to practice the language to be able to use it confidently. Meanwhile Normazidah (2012) identified after 11 years of learning English, they are unable to show proficiency in second language learning. Students still have difficulties in mastering the language.

Parts of speech are one of the important components in studying any language. Parts of speech help students and learners to understand and use the target language more efficiently. Some learners cannot listen, speak, read or write English effectively if his/her parts of speech knowledge is limited. This problem seems to be a critical challenge in his/her learning of English because parts of speech are an important element in the acquisition of a second language.

Objectives

This study aims to investigate the use of PizzHoot techniques to teach pupils to understand and use parts of speech correctly in Part 2, error correction question Paper 1 (Reading) since form one. Grammar activities were conducted during English lesson. The effectiveness of each activity in improving pupils’ grammar knowledge focusing on parts of speech is presented towards the end of this paper.

Novelty

The PizzaHoot is an innovative method to teach grammar in an interesting way so that it facilitates the teaching and learning of grammar. Pupils will have a sound knowledge of grammar and minimize errors while answering part 2 of Paper 1. Therefore, PizzaHoot is a learning platform. This approach is created specifically to enhance pupils’ grammar knowledge combines with technology. The teaching of parts of speech would enhance pupils learning of grammar.


**Benefit to the Users**
The finding of this study will be beneficial for teachers who teach lower secondary pupils to be proficient in the English language as it will enhance their understanding of the Grammar knowledge of second language learning. This approach not only make pupils to enjoy the lesson but the learning of the correct use of grammatical aspects. On the other hand, pupils are given several activities on answering questions for Paper 1.

**Benefit to the Society**
The findings in this research will be beneficial for second language learners to be proficient in the language. It is also useful for English teachers who would like to use teach Parts of speech as their teaching resource.

This finding might be beneficial for language learners, educational institutions and practitioners to develop the use of the English language. Moreover, it is also a guideline for language policy makers for curriculum design to be student-friendly.

2. COMMERCIALIZATION

This PizzaHoot technique material is made of the used boxes of pizza which is recycled and made into attractive pizza boxes. This is cost saving and pupils are easily attracted to this pizza box which stimulates students’ participation. It helps pupils to identify the correct parts of speech for answering the questions.

3. METHODOLOGY

The study focuses on analyzing context of eight categories of English parts of speech; Noun, Pronoun Articles, Adjective, Adverb, Verb. Preposition and Conjunction towards the usage of error correction practice in Paper 1, Part 2, namely lower secondary pupils.

**Sampling**
The samples targeted for this research are students are from three different schools in Johor, Melaka and Klang. The students are Form 1 students. The target number of students for each class or group is 30 to 35 students. The relevance of choosing students from the first and second class is because to differentiate the achievements of both groups of students in their pre-test and post-test results which caused by the presence or absence of the treatments. The research is based on a purposive sampling

**Instruments**
The research design consisted of a pre-test and post-test. Both tests were carried out to see the performance and progress in learning parts of speech. Several grammar activities which are similar in term of its content and difficulty are used as pedagogical treatment. The PizzaHoot boxes will help students to choose the correct parts of speech.
4. DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

A comparison between pre-test and post-test is carried out to determine the effect of PizzaHoot as a technique in enhancing pupils' knowledge on parts of speech. Figure 1 shows the result of pre-test and post-test from all participants of from three different schools. After several pedagogical treatment, the results shows remarkable improvements learning parts of speech. Almost all the students from different schools shows improvement. 88% pupils from SSeMJ shows improvement in post-test compared to pre-test on 40% answered correctly. Meanwhile, pupils from SMKAK show improvement from 48% to 85% and pupils from SMKRM from 57% to 95%. It is very clear PizzaHoot has shown tremendous change to the students' in their understanding of learning parts of speech.

![Graph showing pre-test and post-test results for SSeMJ, SMKAK, and SMKRM](image)

**Figure 1: The results of pre-test and post-test**

5 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, PizzaHoot has shown positive impacts on pupils. It can be concluded that this technique assists students in learning parts of speech. When students are confident, they are able to answer questions on parts of speech correctly. PizzaHoot is an excellent technique to be used in class for teachers as it eases the students to narrow down and write the correct answers.

REFERENCES