

# Describing The ELE Fresh Graduate Students' Habit of Listening to English Songs and Listening Self-Efficacy

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## ARTICLE INFORMATION

### Article History:

Accepted: 11-04-2023  
Approved: 17-07-2023

### Keywords:

*english songs;*  
*listening self-efficacy;*  
*ELE fresh graduates*

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## ABSTRACT

Listening is one of the essential language skills, but previous research has shown that listening is one of the most difficult language skills to acquire. There are two main factors that can cause problems when learning listening skills, there are external and internal. Self-efficacy is one of the internal factors. On the other hand, English songs are said to be an effective medium for students to learn listening skills. The purpose of this study is to describe the ELE fresh graduate student's habit of listening to English songs and their listening self-efficacy. The study is using descriptive study, there are 40 participants, and the researcher used a questionnaire and in-depth interviews to collect the data. The research showed that there is positive result from participants' habit of listening to English songs and their listening self-efficacy. There are some main factors of English songs that help students to improve their listening, namely the lyrics, the exposure of new vocabulary, and the positive effect on students' mood.

Listening, in particular, is the most demanding of all language skills, as it is a vital discovery that enables students to unmask creative ways in which language is pronounced and comprehended (Al-Nafisah, 2019). Listening skills have been regarded as being too asking, and 45% on Listening, which displays the importance of Listening in the communication process. Dunkel (1991) divided listening problems into two factors: external and internal. External factors are factors that influence a listener's listening skills from outside the body, and internal factors are factors that arise from within the listener's beliefs and abilities. In this study, one of the intrinsic factors, self-efficacy, will be the focus of the study. Based on the previous research, one noticeable aspect that seems to be left out is listening self-efficacy.

Self-efficacy is defined as self-perception of how good self can work in certain situations (Bandura, 1977; 1997). In English learning context, the students who have higher self-efficacy level have a better chance to master English language performance (Anyadubalu, 2010; Rahimi, 2007; Rahimi & Abedini, 2009). Therefore, listening self-efficacy is someone's self-perception of their own ability on listening, whether the perception is good or bad. So, we can assume that students who have higher listening self-efficacy levels have a better chance to master listening skill.

Based on the previous research, one noticeable aspect that seems to be left out is listening the role of English song. Listening to song is one of the most enjoyable thing that someone can experience. Feelings of pleasure in learning are stimulated by English songs, reinforced by research that proves that there is an effect of English songs on listening comprehension in adolescents and respondents prefer to listen to song while learning. (Anderson, et.al, 2010). Another research show that there was significant influence of English Song Toward Students' Vocabulary Mastery (Faliyanti, 2017), especially listening comprehension and pronunciation (Ghanbari & Hashemian, 2014), Another research show that English songs may be used to enhance listening abilities of the ESL Grade one learner is a valid one. (Horn, 2007).

The research on college student show that a positive correlation between English listening skills and self-efficacy was found (Todaka, 2017), another research of the results of statistical analyses indicated that listening comprehension, self- efficacy was significantly related to listening proficiency (Rahimi & Abedini, 2009). From the previous studies, we already discovered that English songs have an important role to improve students' listening skills, listening performance, listening achievements, and listening self-efficacy. However, there is not many research that focuses on how the habit of listening to English song can have positive effect towards listening self-efficacy. The researcher also choose ELE fresh graduate students as the respondents because, the researcher wants to know if the habit still apply to students that are already graduated from university, and how it affects them. There is still no study that examine English songs and listening self-efficacy on ELE fresh graduate students.

This purpose is to describe the ELE fresh graduate's habit of listening to English songs and their listening self-efficacy. It simply describe how listening to English songs positively affects ELE fresh graduate students' listening self-efficacy. Thus the research aims to answers these following questions (1) How does listening to English songs affect the listening self-efficacy of ELE fresh graduate students (2) What factors of English songs that affect the listening self-efficacy of ELE Fresh graduate.

## METHODS

In this study, the researcher applies a descriptive qualitative research design. Qualitative research is descriptive, which means that collected data was in the form of words rather than numbers. Moreover, the purpose of qualitative research was to promote a deep understanding of a particular phenomenon such as an environment, a process or even a belief. In this case, the researcher collected, analysed, and interpreted the data and then described it. This method aimed to describe everything related to the research topic.

The participants selected from the preliminary questionnaire, based from 26 questions on the questionnaire it can be concluded that there are respondents that can be considered as music enthusiast. Music enthusiast is someone who is really passionate about music. The researcher chose 3 of 40 participants based on their questionnaire answers, then continue to conduct in-depth interview consist of 10 detailing questions to get more information about their habit of listening to English songs and their listening self-efficacy.

The instruments that the researcher use to gather information, description, and data from the ELE fresh graduate students. The questionnaire is mainly used to gather data for English song and listening self-efficacy variables, the questionnaire is divided into two sections. The in-depth interview is used to gather more in-depth, detailed, and elaborate answer from the participants, specifically from the chosen participants that are considered as music enthusiast. The in-depth interview is important to get more elaborate data from the participants. The instrument to determine the participant's listening self-efficacy is an in-depth interview and in the second section of the preliminary questionnaire. After choosing the participants who are considered as music enthusiast based on the questionnaire, the researcher conducted an in depth-interview that consist of 10 in-depth and detailed questions. The interview is aim to investigate and understand more about participant's listening self-efficacy, then later on using the data into a description. Questionnaire were used to collect the data of ELE fresh graduates. It consist of 26 questions that aimed to getting information about respondents habit of listening English songs and whether they are considered as music enthusiast. Based on the questionnaire we can also gather information about some aspects such as the frequency of listening to English songs, emotions that are involved when listening to English songs, the diversity of music that the ELE fresh graduate students listening to, and how their habit of listening to English songs affecting their listening self-efficacy.

After the instruments are validated by the expert, the researcher started to collect the data. There are two instruments that the researcher used, questionnaire and the in-depth interview. The questionnaire was in the form of Google form, and consist of two sections and 26 questions. The link of the Google form was sent via email and WhatsApp to all 40 participants. An in-depth interview is conducted. The interview was conducted using online platform such as WhatsApp and Google Meet. The interviewee was selected based on the questionnaire result to ensure that the interviewee represent all result of the questionnaire.

The researcher compiling the data from the questionnaire that has been sent to participants via email or Whatsapp. The researcher then making the graph based of the result. Next, the researcher analyse the data and describing what indicates the participants listening habit and self-efficacy. In analysing how the ELE undergraduate students' habit of listening to English songs the researcher using questionnaire that contains two main section. From the questionnaire, the researcher gathered data that described the ELE fresh graduate student's listening self-efficacy. The data from interview would be analysed by finding out the underlying participants' reason on listening habit and listening self-efficacy.

## FINDINGS

Based on the analysis of the result, it indicates that ELE fresh graduate students has the habit. It was described that the habit often started from the early age, participants listen to English songs more than two hours a day as we can see in the graph below. The ELE fresh graduate students have various purpose, based on the data, most of them tend to sing along to the English songs that they listen to as we can see in the table 1.

**Table. 1 The Result of the Questionnaire Section 1, English songs**

No	Questionnaire answer for section 1 Habit of listening to English songs	Yes Frequency (%)	No Percentage (%)
1	Do you listen to English songs?	100	0
2	Do you prefer listening to English songs rather than Indonesian songs	94,9	5,1
3	Do you relate to the English songs that you listen to	97,4	2,6
4	Do you read the lyrics while listening to English songs	76,9	23,1
5	Do you learn new vocabulary every time you listen to English songs?	97,4	2,6
6	I always listen to English songs whenever I do my activities	71,8	28,2

7	Do you think it's easier to understand English songs compared to Indonesian songs	82,1	17,9
8	I also pay attention to the English songs that are played in a public places (Cafés, Markets, Offices, etc)	76,9	23,1
9	My favorite artists or band sing English songs	97,4	2,6
10	I like to interpret the lyrics from any English song that I listen to	76,9	23,1
11	have a music playlist full of English songs on music platforms (Spotify, x, et)	71,8	28,2

Based from the data on the questionnaire, all 40 participants are listening to English songs, this means that all of ELE fresh graduates listening to English songs. Supporting the previous statement, the data also describe that 94.9% of the participants are prefer listening to English songs rather than Indonesian songs. One of the crucial question in the questionnaire is aimed to get information and data from ELE fresh graduate students about their listening habit. The data describe that 92.3% of the participants said that it can improve their listening skill. The other data are describing these varied reasons of why they like it as we can see in the graph 2 below. The second highest answer describe that 87.2% of the participants said that listening to English songs can boost their mood. From the data it also describe that 66.7% of the participants feeling more confident about their listening skill because they listen to English songs. The next two answers which are participants' curiosity about the lyrics and the fact that listening to English songs can make them understand English conversation better are uniquely have the same amount of answer of 64, 1%. Finally the lowest answer that the participants chose was listening to English songs make them more focus while studying or working with only 48.7%. From the data that has been mentioned, it evidently proven that more than 90% of the participants are fond of English songs and they acknowledge that English songs can improve their listening skill.

The data from the questionnaire describes how English songs can affect the participants listening self-efficacy. These particular data are the most important evidence. First, more than 95% of the participant said that they agree that their habit help them improving confidence in listening to other English materials. Second, more than 90% of the participants agree with the statement that they can understand English conversations better. Third, more than 90 % of the participants says that they feel motivated to listen to more challenging English audio sources such as Video essays, English podcasts, English news, and English Educational videos. Forth, more than 92% of the participants said that they feel more confident and prepared whenever I have to do listening test. Fifth, more than 93% of the participants said that they consider any English listening activity not a burden. From five statements from the questionnaire above, clearly the data of English songs positively affecting and the participants' listening self-efficacy.

The researcher continue collecting more data with in depth-interview. The interview guide contain 7 in depth and detailed questions, the chosen participants can also elaborate their answers. The researcher choose 3 participants that represents music enthusiast based from their questionnaire answers. The continuation of the research using the in-depth interview for the 3 participants that has been chosen based on their questionnaire result also shows positive description. Fr om the interview result of the 3 participants, it is clear that has positive and convincing answer and outlook regarding their listening self-efficacy and their listening habit. The examples of how the participants convey confident tone with sturdy conviction are presented in these following excerpt

*Listening to English songs enhances my sensitivity to English words. The more I listen to English songs, the more vocabulary I get."*

*"I feel like my confidence in listening is improved because I can understand and recognize verbal English in conversations, songs, videos, and other media."*

*"When I listen to a lot of English song, my ability to recognize words, phrase and sentence got better."*

*"Listening to song, in my opinion is the fastest way to improve my affinity in listening English sources."*

*"The high level of enjoyment and the desire to learn more about the lyrics, and what the artist is trying to tell are the thing that boost my self-listening efficacy to high level."*

*"I'd say listening and watching various YouTube content also influence my listening self-efficacy. Listening to English speaking sources generally makes me feels entertains and encourage."*

## DISCUSSION

Based on the findings from the questionnaire it revealed that more than 90% of the ELE fresh graduate students are fond of English songs, they also said that their listening habit has some positive result on their listening ability. It described that more than 92% of the respondents' listening skill is improved because of their listening habit. Participants are mostly spend 2-3 hours a day, within that hours listening to English songs is effective on improving their listening skill because of various reason. A) The ELE Fresh graduate students are paying a lot of attention to the lyrics. More than 75% of the respondents acknowledge that reading the lyrics of the songs they listen to, they can improve their listening skill, learning new vocabulary, learning how to pronounce the words, and by interpreting the lyrics it can actually make them understand more about the lyrical content of the songs. B) The songs itself can actually boost the mood of the listener, from the questionnaire it was evident that more than 80% of the respondents agreed with that statement. Another important input from the questionnaire is that more than 95% of the respondents stated that it can help them understand English conversation better, this data is quite in line with previous research

by (Hedge, 2000). She mentioned that in communication, 45% is spent on Listening, which displays the importance of Listening in the communication process.

The result of this study evidently proving the answers for those difficulties, namely; lack of vocabulary, finding meanings of unusual words, having anxiety while learning. The result of from the questionnaire for example are positively describe it can actually exposed ELE fresh graduate students to more vocabulary and difficult words, more than 95% of the participants said that they learn new vocabulary every time you listen to English songs. Furthermore, the result of the study also described that more than 85% of the respondent said that listening to English songs can tremendously boost their mood, this is line with (Anderson, et.al, 2010) that stated that feelings of pleasure in learning are stimulated by English songs, it was reinforced by research that proves that there is an effect of English songs on listening comprehension in adolescents and respondents prefer to listen to song while learning.

Relating to the research question, the research describe positive result from the questionnaire and the in-depth interview. The data shows that all participants are fond of English songs, it also discovered that 97% of the participants learn new vocabulary each time they listen to it. The fact that not only the data confirm the previous research problem which is the lack of vocabulary leads to the difficulties in learning, the data also implying that the more students listening to English songs the more they will get new vocabulary. Another result that can be found from this study is how listening to English songs can actually boost the listeners' moods. It is evidently described in the findings that 87, 2% of the participants are emotionally improved by listening to English songs, boosting their moods means that they will have positive outlook and can be less anxious. The researcher believe that the main reason how EFE fresh graduate students habit the habit can improve participants listening self-efficacy is actually the lyrics of the songs. From the questionnaire result it was described that more than 75% of the participants are reading the lyrics from the songs the listened to. Related to that, it was also described that more than 75% of the participants are relate to the lyrics and willing to interpret it themselves. These following excerpt below are the evident to support the statements.

The first factor is the exposure of English songs on participants, from the interview we can gather the data of how the participants are exposed to English songs, the answer is varied yet all participants agree that their listening habit help them to expose to a lot of new words, vocabulary, phrase, idiom, and metaphor. That statement indicate that the habit helps them to get better vocabulary knowledge, therefor they are more confident with ability to listen to English. Another important discovery is how important the lyrics for the participants to improve their listening and listening self-efficacy. The interview provide quite positive evidence regarding how lyrics and theme of songs can actually improve their listening self-efficacy. These following excerpt below are the evident to support the statements.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion, it can be concluded that the research participant in this study has the listening habit, since it can be proven from the result of both the questionnaire and the in-depth interview. The study also find a positive result of ELE fresh graduate students' listening habit and their listening self-efficacy. The data described these following result to support the previous statement, 92% of the ELE fresh graduate students believe that it can improve their listening skill, 97% of the ELE fresh graduate students said it helps them discover new vocabulary, 87% of the ELE fresh graduate students think that their listening habit actually boost their mood, more than 90% of the ELE fresh graduate students said that it helps me improve my confidence in listening to other English materials and understand English conversation better. These positive result of ELE fresh graduates on habit of listening to English songs and their listening improvement also supported with the result that the researcher found from the interview. All three participants who had been interviewed evidently said that their habit of listening to English songs helps them improve their listening self-efficacy.

Moreover, this study also answers the two main questions that the researcher mentioned before. From this study we discovered that the listening English songs as a habit on ELE fresh graduate students has a great impact to their listening self-efficacy, this is evident from the interview that can be concluded that the more they listening to English songs, the more they would be exposed to new vocabulary, getting used to the pronunciation of the words, they can understanding listening material better, therefore they have higher listening self-efficacy. The findings also describing what factors of English songs that could improve someone's listening skill and self-efficacy, there are; the exposure of various new vocabulary, the positive feeling while listening to the song can actually boost their mood and make them less anxious, and the importance of the lyrics in terms of improving their listening self-efficacy.

Based on the findings of the study, some recommendations have been made for lecturers or advisors, students, and future researchers. The suggestion from the researcher is simply we have to pay more attention to music as the media to learn English. In the context of teaching and learning, the lecturer or teacher could use English songs to teach listening, not only it is more engaging, this research and several other research has evidently proven that music has positive influence in learning English. The student can also start using English songs as media to branch out their learning experience, from the interview of the participants it was clearly mentioned that it has a great positive impact on their development of their listening.

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