

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

The teaching of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) plays a vital role in Indonesia's educational curriculum. However, many students struggle to grasp English vocabulary and grammar. The Alpha Generation, born between 2010 and 2025, exhibits unique learning characteristics, preferring interactive and engaging media. Music, as an educational medium, effectively enhances student motivation and interest. It is possible to become acquainted with vocabulary and grammar through catchy and memorable songs. The qualitative analysis of fun English vocabulary and grammar in songs is intended to contribute to the study of EFL teaching and learning for the Alpha Generation.

Songs are no strangers to the teaching and learning process. Music, as well as songs, are widely used in the educational domain, especially when students are involved on tasks while they reload in fasting conditions (Levy, 2000; DePoter, 1999; Schmid, 1999 apud Dryden, 2000). Some songs can actually influence and engage the brain in learning. Also, songs can be useful in teaching language and skill items when teaching foreign languages, particularly English (Lems, 2001; Puasa, 2003). The song makes for a very fun teaching tool because, as Sumardi (1992) in Fasting (2008:5) states, it can help pupils rest, relax, and break free from their stressful surroundings. (Adnyani & Dewi, 2020)

Al-Qur'an verses related to learning media can be explained in the following verse which contains instructions regarding education and teaching. The relevant version is:

أَدْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحُكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَادِهِمْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ
بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ

“Call (people) to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good teaching and debate them in a better way. Verily your Lord is the One who knows best who strays from His path and He knows best who is guided.” (Q.S An-Nahl (16:125)).

In the Concise Interpretation of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, it is explained that after the Prophet Ibrahim was used as an example, Allah ordered the Prophet Muhammad P.B.U.H to invite people to the way of Allah in a good way. This da'wah aims to invite people to the way of Allah, not for personal or group interests. Da'wah must be done with wisdom, namely firmly, correctly, and wisely, and with good teaching. If someone rejects or doubts, then it must be debated in a good way. Allah is the One who give guidance, He knows better who is misguided and who gets guidance. According to M. Quraish Shihab in the Book of Tafsir Al-Mishbah, QS an-Nahl verse 125 explains about three different da'wah methods depending on the object of da'wah. First, the al-hikmah method is used for scholars who have high knowledge. Second, the al-mau'izah method is used for ordinary people by giving advice and parables that touch the soul. Third, the almuja'dalah method is used for adherents of other religions by arguing well, using logic and subtle rhetoric without violence or diatribe. Based on the above interpretation, QS. An-Nahl verse 125 explains about effective da'wah methods. After understanding this method, the next step is to apply it in a fun way. The main goal in preaching is

to make others accept the invitation to goodness with open arms. It teaches the principle of wisdom and wisdom in communicating the message. It means understanding the situation, conditions, and characteristics of the audience to communicate the message in the most appropriate and effective way. It includes the use of soft, engaging, and touching language. In a modern context, especially for the younger generation such as the Alpha Generation, which is highly exposed to technology and multimedia, the use of music as a learning medium can be regarded as the application of the principles mentioned in this verse. Although the Qur'an does not directly mention the use of song as a learning method, the principles set forth in Surah An-Nahl paragraph 125 support the application of wise, good, and effective methods in communicating knowledge. In the context of modern education, song can be one of the powerful tools to teach different concepts to the younger generation in an interesting and effective way. (Mubarak & Halid, 2020)

There are some gaps between this research and the previous studies. First, the gap between this research with Noor Muhammad Salim and Zulfitri is from the methodology, this research is conducting a qualitative study, whereas Noor Muhammad Salim and Zulfitri's study "Effect of Using English Song on Students' Vocabulary Mastery at 7th Grade of MTS Private Al Azhar Education Foundation Medan" used the Kolmogorov-Smirnov method in SPSS to test the normality of the data, which showed that the experimental and control classes had normally distributed pre-test and post-test results. Second, the gap between this research with Satyan, U. (2020) "Content Analysis: Pop-Songs in the English Language Teaching Classes" The difference between the second previous study and this study is the

learning media analyzes, the second previous study analyzes pop songs, while this study analyzes FUVGIS which contains children's songs as a learning media. the focus of the research, the second previous study focuses more on analyzing the content of pop songs and how pop songs can be used in English classes, while this study examines how the themes and topics of songs align with the interests and cultural context of the alpha generation and also analyzes the vocabulary and grammatical structures commonly found in FUVGIS songs. Third, the gap between this research from the study by Mozes Kurniawan, Yolanda Anggiana Putri, and Gissela Cahya Alianti (2024) The difference between the third previous study and this study is the target age of students, the third previous study focused shows that the use of Pop-Up QR Book media can improve the English language skills of young children (3-4 years old), while this study focuses on the alpha generation which covers a wider age range. the learning media used, the third previous study used QR pop-up books, while this study analyzed FUVGIS as a learning media.

The research an analysis of FUVGIS as learning media for Alpha Generation aims to investigate the alignment of FUVGIS themes with the interests and cultural context of Alpha Generation and analyze the vocabulary and grammatical structures in FUVGIS songs of English learning. Alpha Generation, born in the digital era, has a unique way of learning that is different from the previous generation. Therefore, innovative and fun learning methods are needed to improve their English proficiency. To address these issues, this study examines Fun English Vocabulary and Grammar in Songs (FUVGIS), providing guidance for Alpha Generation-specific EFL instruction.

Songs have long been used as a teaching technique. By appealing to a variety of senses, music has been shown to improve learning, foster creativity, and lower stress. Because they can boost motivation and interest in learning English, FUVGIS can be useful learning tools. Furthermore, FUVGIS can enhance English language proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By analyzing FUVGIS as learning media, this research is expected to contribute to the development of English language learning theory and practice. The results of this study are also expected to help teachers and educators in developing more effective learning methods for Alpha Generation. Thus, this research can improve the quality of English learning for Alpha Generation.

B. Definition of Key Terms

To prevent misunderstandings, several research related words are defined:

1. FUVGIS: (Fun English Vocabulary and Grammar in song) is a fun and effective English learning method for Alpha Generation, with the aim of improving English proficiency, motivation and communication skills through songs.
2. EFL: (English as a Foreign Language) for English language learning in children is an approach to teaching English that is specifically designed for children who are non-native English speakers.
3. Learning Media: Learning media are all tools and resources that can help us learn more easily and enjoyably. In this study, researchers will focus on

learning media in the form of YouTube, especially for learning English for the alpha generation.

4. Alpha Generation: The Alpha Generation refers to individuals born after 2010, generally between 2010 and 2025. They are the children of Millennials and Gen Z. The Alpha Generation grows up in an era of advanced digital technology, with easy access to the internet, social media, and smart devices. They are known as a generation that is highly connected to technology and has a rapid ability to adapt to technological changes.

C. Research Questions

The main questions to be addressed in this research are:

1. How do the themes and topics of FUVGIS songs align with the interests and cultural context of Alpha Generation?
2. What types of vocabulary and grammatical structures are commonly found in FUVGIS songs?

D. Objectives of Study

The research intends to investigate the following research questions:

1. To investigate the alignment of FUVGIS themes with the interests and cultural context of Alpha Generation.
2. To analyze the vocabulary and grammatical structures in FUVGIS songs.

E. Significance of Study

This section mentions the theoretical and practical implications or the

contribution of the study.

1. Theoretical Contributions

This study contributes to the development of innovative EFL teaching strategies, emphasizing the role of music in language acquisition.

2. Practically Contributions

For Teachers: Provides strategies to integrate music into English lessons effectively and improve the quality of learning and make learning more enjoyable.

For Students: Enhances engagement, motivation, and retention through interactive learning media that uses music as a learning tool. Thus, students can learn English more easily, fun and effectively.