

## ABSTRACT

**Hidayati, Nurul.** 2021. The Use of WhatsApp Application for Speaking Solution Class. Thesis. English Education Department, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Antasari State Islamic University. Advisors: (I) Drs. Saadillah, M.Pd, (II) Fajrianor, S.Pd, M.Pd.

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Nowadays, many people from different backgrounds or professions want to learn and be able to speak English fluently. However, not everyone has the free time to go to offline private classes without leaving their work. The development of technology provides a solution for this problem through various applications that people can use to fulfill their needs, one of them is WhatsApp application. People can make use of this application for many activities, one of them is for learning to speak English as provided by Speaking Solution Class. This study aims to explain about the use of WhatsApp application for Speaking Solution Class and the strategies used in the teaching and learning process.

This study used a qualitative approach with a descriptive qualitative method. The research was conducted in English WhatsApp group named Speaking Solution Class consisting of 25 members and 1 tutor, and the tutor is the main subject of the study. The data were collected through observation, interview, and documentation and were analyzed through the processes of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing.

The results of the study show that (1) the use of WhatsApp application for Speaking Solution Class has several advantages and disadvantages, especially in the feature of WhatsApp group. In general, the advantages are related to the increase of student motivation and the improvement of students' participation in learning. On the other hand, the disadvantages are mainly about the communication overload and the demand on the Tutor to monitor the group members manually. Then, (2) the Tutor used the strategy of 'listen and imitate' to teach in Speaking Solution Class, so the participants are asked to listen to the example of his recording in saying a sentence and imitate or repeat the sentence by themselves for 70 times. This strategy was found in the previous study to be applied by high speaking performance students, meaning that the strategy gives a good impact on students' speaking performance. Similar to the evaluation results of Speaking Solution Class, 22 of 25 participants are good enough in their speaking skill based on pronunciation, accuracy, vocabularies, and fluency to speak English.