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## HOW TO IMPROVE GENERATION Z'S MOTIVATION TO LEARN ENGLISH THROUGH ENGLISH CLUB

Oleh

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**Abstract:** *The study aims to enhance the motivation of Generation Z to learn English through the English Club. The English Club is chosen as a means to create an environment that supports and motivates students to study English actively and continuously. The study was conducted using participatory and qualitative methods, involving students from the University of BSI Campus City of Tasikmalaya who are members of the English Club. The results of the study showed increased motivation for learning English in students who are actively engaged in the English club. Implications of this research can be used as a basis for the development of extra-curricular activities at the Bina Sarana Informatika University to improve the motivation to learn English in Generation Z.*

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## PENDAHULUAN

Generation Z is known as a digitally connected generation, with a preference for interactive and collaborative learning. The English Club is seen as a potential means to enhance their learning motivation through social interaction and the use of English in a fun and meaningful context.

We recognize that language mastery and communication skills have been a priority, especially for Generation Z in the age of globalization. Generation Z is a well-known student with special characteristics and attitudes that require an effective English teaching methodology to meet their learning needs. <sup>1</sup>.

English Club is a place for students to share their interests and knowledge about English. Groups within the English club are encouraged to interact socially using the direction and resources of relevant speakers and by collaborating during activities<sup>2</sup>.

Languages, particularly foreign languages such as English, change swiftly in the modern

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<sup>1</sup> Ruiping Chen, "Generation Z Students Characteristics and Attitude in a Chinese English Language Teaching Classroom," *Lecture Notes in Education Psychology and Public Media* 2, no. 1 (2023): 765–78, <https://doi.org/10.54254/2753-7048/2/2022458>.

<sup>2</sup> Kurniati, "Correlation between Participation in English Club, Learning Motivation, and Students' Confidence in Speaking: A Quantitative Study at SMPN 1 Pangkalanbaru, Central Bangka Regency," *Jurnal Pendidikan Tambusai* 7, no. 2 (2023): 19173–80, <https://jptam.org/index.php/jptam/article/view/9419>.

globalized world. English is a global language that allows people to communicate with each other. The English Community Club is an extracurricular activity focused on helping students improve their English language skills. This activity focuses on the ability to speak.

The main objective of the English Club is to improve students' ability to speak English, especially in public speaking. Especially at the Islamic University of Bina Sarana Informatika at Campus Tasikmalaya, this activity aims to involve all students, not only those who are studying in the English major but also those who are studying in other majors.

### LANDASAN TEORI

Motivation is one of the most important factors in the learning process. Without motivation, the goals of learning are difficult to achieve. When learners have it in their learning process, they'll better understand the information, especially in English.

Motivation is the key to success in the learning process. Some academics provide specific definitions of motivation. According to Hayikaleng, Nair, and Krishnasamy <sup>3</sup>, motivation is an essential factor in ensuring students' achievement in English learning. Motivation may also be described as a person's intention to continue an action and vice versa <sup>4</sup>. Furthermore, Tambunan and Siregar <sup>5</sup> state that motivation and educational success as represented in grade point average are strongly connected at all levels of learning, from elementary to college.

Community-based English clubs are similar to these clubs. They are informal gatherings of individuals who meet regularly and often voluntarily and who come from different parts of a community, town, or village for the express purpose of practicing English. Members may be professionals or students at secondary and university levels. Members commit to speaking in English during meetings as they engage in activities that support and encourage them to use the language<sup>6</sup>.

BSI University English Club is a language student activity (UKM Bahasa ) unit where all students are motivated and allowed to develop their English language skills by following the programs provided. The program includes reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.

Several factors are believed to be the cause of students' low motivation and ability to speak English, one of which is a less supportive learning environment and a lack of training in learning English. English is not only about the theory and the rules of grammar but also requires practice, as presented by Finocchiaro and Brumfit who stated that in the process of learning to teach language, it is better to focus on the use of language rather than on knowledge of language. The second problem is the poor quality of English students, especially

<sup>3</sup> Nuramah Hayikaleng, Subadrah Madhawa Nair, and Hariharan N Krishnasamy, "Thai Students' Motivation on English Reading Comprehension," *International Journal of Education and Research* 4, no. 6 (2016): 477–86, [www.ijern.com](http://www.ijern.com).

<sup>4</sup> Mitra Alizadeh., "The Impact of Motivation on English Language Learning," *International Journal of Research in English Education* 1, no. 1 (2016), <https://ijreeonline.com/>.

<sup>5</sup> Anna Riana Suryanti Tambunan and Tiarnita M. S Siregar, "Students' Motivation in Learning English Language (a Case Study of Electrical Engineering Department Students)," *Journal of English Language Studies* 1, no. 2 (2016): 63–70, <https://doi.org/10.30870/jels.v1i2.956>.

<sup>6</sup> Kathleen F Malu and Bryce Smedley, "Community-Based English Clubs : English Practice and Social Change Outside the Classroom," *English Teaching Forum* 54, no. 3 (2016): 10–23, <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1114170.pdf>.

non-English students, the reason is still the lack of awareness of students in learning it. Therefore, students should be attending additional activities such as private lessons or other learning groups.

### **METODE PENELITIAN (Cambria, size 12)**

This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach. According to Sugiyono<sup>7</sup> in <sup>8</sup>Descriptive research is the study that reveals a problem, a situation, or an event as it happens in the sense of fact-finding. This research aims to reveal events or facts, circumstances, phenomena, variables, and conditions in implementing the English Club non-English student program activities at BSI University Tasikmalaya Campus.

The data collection methods used are interviews, observations, and documentation. In contrast, the data analysis techniques used are qualitative and are carried out through several stages, namely data collection, data reduction, and conclusion drawings. The data collected from the informants resulted in an exhibition of the UKM English Club at the University of BSI campus Tasikmalaya, the occurrence of social interactions between members, both non-English Department students, and the driving and inhibiting factors in social interaction at the English Club. After that, the data is presented smoothly and systematically so that conclusions can be drawn.

The language student activity unit (UKM) program at the university provides information technology facilities, including regular classes held a week, which can be implemented online or offline, where the technical implementation can involve mentors or peer tutors from fellow English club members. The second program is a webinar, seminar, or workshop that invites experts in the field. The material can be in the form of ways to improve your proficiency in English or tips and tricks for passing the TOEFL. The third is outdoor where we study outside the campus while walking around. The fourth, which is no less important, is the UKM Language Festival, an annual event where you can hold cosplay, and a band festival resulting from collaboration with UKM Music and Japanese clubs in BSI University Tasikmalaya campus.

In this research, the writers gave some questions for its summary. The motivation questionnaire was distributed to the participants in the English club. There are 5 questions that the members must answer.

1. How often do you attend English Club meetings in a month?
2. How far does the English Club help you improve your English skills?
3. How motivated are you to learn English after joining the English Club?
4. What did you most enjoy from the English Club event?
5. How sure can the English Club help you with your English learning goals?

### **HASIL DAN PEMBAHASAN**

The research findings showed that language learning motivation is an important field in language pedagogy since it is seen as one of the key variables contributing to the successful acquisition of a foreign or second language. These studies revealed a variety of results that

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<sup>7</sup> Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Pendidikan Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, Dan R&D* (Bandung: Alfabet, 2017).

<sup>8</sup> Fahmi, Jasmansyah, Yusawinur Barella, Eka Fajar Rahmani, Utami Ratna Swari, AINU ZUMRUDIANA, Yani Sri Mulyani, Balqis Husain, Beny Hamdani, *Metode Penelitian Pendidikan*, ed. Ahmad Madkur, 1st ed. (Yogyakarta: Zahir publishing, 2022).

reflected the complexity of examining motivation in language learning. Moreover, several studies in the foreign and second language field have acknowledged the social and contextual influences on individual motivation.

Based on questions given to members of the English Club, we can draw some potential conclusions as follows:

1. High attendance and participation: the members respond that they attend English Club meetings regularly once per week, this indicates a good level of participation and commitment to the club's activities.
2. Positive Impact on English Language Skills: the members feel that the English Club helps them improve their English language skills, it indicates that the activities and programs held by the club provide real benefits in the development of English language skills.
3. High Motivation to Learn: the members report a high level of motivation to learn English after joining the club, this indicates that the English Club manages to maintain and enhance their interest in learning.
4. Satisfaction with Club Activities: Answers to questions about English Club activities that are most can provide insight into the type of activity or event that is most successful in attracting members' interest and their participation.
5. Confidence in achieving the Learning Goals: the members feel confident that the English Club can help them with their English learning goals, this indicates that they have confidence in the value and effectiveness of the club in supporting the achievement of those goals.

Thus, the conclusion we can draw is that these questions are designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the English Club in improving the English language skills of members, in learning motivation, as well as providing a useful and satisfying experience through various club activities.

## KESIMPULAN

In accordance with the research findings, instrumental incentive is the most powerful motivator for students to learn English. Personal motivations are often regarded as a significant motivator for pupils. However, for integrative reasons, these findings show that studying English as part of a community's culture had the least effect on students' English motivation. Finally, integrative and instrumental motivation help people acquire a second or foreign language. What is clear is that the instructor, the classroom environment, broadcasting program content, materials, and facilities, as well as students' characteristics, will all influence students' motivation to learn English, particularly those in the English language club at BSI University's Tasikmalaya.

It should be noted that the problem of increasing student motivation to learn English through English clubs is very good because the English club program itself offers interesting programs, creating a friendly atmosphere so that Generation Z is motivated and interested in learning English.

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HALAMAN INI SENGAJA DIKOSONGKAN