

English for Gamers: Level Up Your Language Skills and Connect Globally

Bayu Grendo Sigarete¹, Fini Widya Fransiska²

Sekolah Tinggi Pariwisata Ambarrukmo Yogyakarta¹, Universitas Muhammadiyah Pringsewu²

*sigarebayu@gmail.com¹, finiwidyafriansiska@umpri.ac.id²

**Corresponding Author*

ABSTRACT

The integration of gaming into English language learning is gaining increasing attention as an innovative method for improving language skills. This research explores how the use of games, especially MMORPGs (Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games), can facilitate English language acquisition through the interactions required in game contexts. The game allows players to communicate in English in real-time, improving their language skills through practical application in high-pressure situations. Studies show that gamers often have better language skills compared to non-gamers, especially in vocabulary and writing skills. Additionally, the motivation triggered by the fun and interactivity aspects of games can reduce affective barriers, such as anxiety, that are often encountered in traditional language learning. Through analyzing language features in gaming communities, learning materials can be designed to suit students' experiences and interests, making them more relevant and engaging. This research highlights the potential of games as an effective language learning tool, offering a new context for language acquisition that may not be achieved with conventional methods.

Keywords: Gaming, English Learning, Game-Based Learning, Language Skills.

ABSTRAK

Integrasi gaming ke dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris semakin mendapatkan perhatian sebagai metode inovatif untuk meningkatkan keterampilan bahasa. Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi bagaimana penggunaan game, khususnya MMORPGs (Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games), dapat memfasilitasi akuisisi bahasa Inggris melalui interaksi yang diperlukan dalam konteks permainan. Game memungkinkan pemain untuk berkomunikasi dalam bahasa Inggris secara real-time, memperbaiki keterampilan bahasa mereka melalui penerapan praktis dalam situasi bertekanan tinggi. Studi menunjukkan bahwa gamer sering kali memiliki kemampuan bahasa yang lebih baik dibandingkan dengan non-gamer, terutama dalam kosakata dan keterampilan menulis. Selain itu, motivasi yang dipicu oleh aspek kesenangan dan interaktivitas dalam game dapat mengurangi hambatan afektif, seperti kecemasan, yang sering dihadapi dalam pembelajaran bahasa tradisional. Melalui analisis fitur bahasa dalam komunitas gaming, materi pembelajaran dapat dirancang agar sesuai dengan pengalaman dan minat pelajar, menjadikannya lebih relevan dan menarik. Penelitian ini menyoroti potensi game sebagai alat pembelajaran bahasa yang efektif, menawarkan konteks baru untuk akuisisi bahasa yang mungkin tidak dicapai dengan metode konvensional.

Kata Kunci: Gaming, Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris, Game-Based Learning, Keterampilan Bahasa.

1. Introduction

The integration of gaming into language learning, especially English, has received significant attention in recent years. The phenomenon of using English as a lingua franca in online environments, such as MMORPGs (Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Games), illustrates the potential of games to facilitate language acquisition. In these settings, gamers are often required to communicate in English, which can improve their language skills through practical application in high-pressure situations (Kramer, 2013). This need to communicate creates an environment where language learning occurs incidentally but effectively, because players interact with the language in real contexts rather than through traditional rote learning methods (Hapsari et al., 2018).

Research shows that gaming can positively influence English language skills. For example, studies show that frequent gamers tend to perform better than non-gamers in

various aspects of English, including vocabulary and writing skills (Sylvén & Sundqvist, 2012). The immersive nature of the game allows players to encounter and utilize English in diverse contexts, thereby enhancing their linguistic abilities. Additionally, the social interactions that occur during the game—whether through chat functions or voice communication—also contribute to language learning by encouraging players to practice their English in real-time (Hapsari et al., 2018; Rama et al., 2012).

Furthermore, the role of motivation in language learning through gaming cannot be underestimated. Game-based learning environments often reduce affective barriers, such as anxiety, that students may face in traditional educational settings (Bai, 2024; Albaqami, 2022). The enjoyment derived from gaming can increase engagement and willingness to experiment with language, which is crucial for language acquisition (Sundqvist, 2015). Gamers report greater confidence in using English, which correlates with better performance in both gaming and academic contexts (Liverød, 2022). This suggests that skills developed through gaming can translate into better language skills outside of the gaming environment.

Furthermore, the linguistic landscape within the gaming community reveals a richness of language use that can be exploited for educational purposes. By analyzing common language features in gaming communication, educators can develop material that suits students' experiences and interests (Pratama, 2024). This alignment between gaming and educational content can make learning more relevant and interesting for students, thereby improving their overall language skills. In conclusion, the intersection of gaming and English learning offers a promising avenue for improving language skills. The immersive, interactive, and motivational aspects of gaming provide a unique context for language acquisition that traditional methods may not offer. As research continues to explore these dynamics, it is clear that utilizing gaming can make a significant contribution to effective English language education.

In the context of globalization, English language skills are increasingly important, serving as a primary medium for international communication as well as a gateway to information and opportunities in the digital realm. The gaming industry, particularly multiplayer online games, has emerged as a significant platform for language interaction, where players from diverse backgrounds often communicate in English. These interactions not only provide entertainment but also serve as practical tools to improve language skills. Research shows that engaging in multiplayer online games can facilitate language learning by providing an immersive environment in which players practice English in a real-time context. This contributes to increasing their communicative competence and reducing anxiety related to language use (Jabbari & Eslami, 2018; Yaşar, 2018; Sykes, 2018).

The educational potential of games as a learning tool has been well documented. Well-designed interactive games can significantly increase motivation and engagement among learners, offering real-life context for language application. Research shows that game-based learning can introduce vocabulary and sentence structures in meaningful situations, thereby making the learning process more relevant and enjoyable (Rosero, 2024; Huang, 2023). For example, the use of massively multiplayer online games (MMOGs) has been associated with increased language acquisition, as players often engage in collaborative tasks that require effective communication in English (Braga & Racilan, 2020; Jabbari, 2021). Additionally, the anonymity provided by avatars in these games can encourage players to take risks in language use, which in turn encourages a more active and confident approach to learning (Jabbari & Eslami, 2018; Yaşar, 2018).

Gamification, namely the integration of game elements into educational contexts, has also been shown to increase student engagement. By integrating game mechanics into language learning, educators can create interactive and fun experiences that motivate students to participate actively in their learning process (Azman & Dollsaid, 2019; Alyaz & Genç, 2016). Research highlights that digital game-based learning not only supports the development of language skills but also promotes critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, which are

critical in today's interconnected world (Huang, 2023; Yu et al., 2015). Additionally, the collaborative nature of many online games encourages social interaction, which further enhances language practices and cultural exchange among players from different linguistic backgrounds (Hong et al., 2016).

In short, the intersection of gaming and language education presents a promising avenue for improving English language skills in a global context. The interactive and immersive nature of games provides authentic opportunities for learners to practice English, while gamification strategies can significantly increase motivation and engagement in the learning process. Thus, educators are increasingly recognizing the value of integrating gaming into language curricula to create more dynamic and effective learning environments.

Metro City, which is known as one of the education centers in Lampung Province, has great potential to utilize this approach. With a fairly large student and student population, Metro is an ideal environment to implement game-based English learning programs. The demographic characteristics of being young and open to technology make this group the right target audience for activities that combine language learning and gaming. Students and students in Metro, as in many other areas, not only access games as a means of recreation, but also as a window to interact with the outside world. However, the language barrier is often a barrier to them taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by online gaming. Therefore, it is important to design a program that not only improves their English skills, but also guides them in utilizing games as an effective learning tool.

In this context, the community service activity (PkM) "English for Gamers: Level Up Your Language Skills and Connect Globally" was designed. This program aims to integrate English language learning with gaming activities that are familiar to students and college students, so that they not only play games, but also learn and improve their English language skills simultaneously. It is hoped that this activity can be the first step in overcoming the language barriers often experienced by young gamers in Metro, as well as opening up new opportunities for them to interact internationally.

English language ability is an important skill that can open up many opportunities in various aspects of life, especially in the current era of digital and globalization. In the midst of the development of the gaming world, students and students at Metro are increasingly exposed to English language content through the online games they play. Although in-game interactions can be a golden opportunity to practice and improve English language skills, the reality is that many people still have difficulty understanding and using this language effectively.

In this context, several important questions arise that need to be answered through the community service activity (PkM) "English for Gamers: Level Up Your Language Skills and Connect Globally":

- 1. Can an English learning approach combined with gaming activities improve English language skills among pupils and students in Metro?**
- 2. How can this program motivate participants to more actively use English in gaming contexts and everyday life?**
- 3. Is there a significant difference in the improvement of English language skills between participants who take part in this program and those who do not?**
- 4. What challenges might be faced in integrating English learning with gaming activities, and how can they be overcome?**

By formulating these problems, this PkM activity seeks to find concrete and applicable answers regarding how the use of games as a learning medium can be effective in improving English language skills among pupils and students in Metro. Apart from that, this problem formulation also directs research to understand the extent to which integration between language education and gaming can be accepted and implemented among the target audience, as well as the long-term impact on their language skills.

The main objective of the community service activity (PkM) "English for Gamers: Level Up Your Language Skills and Connect Globally" is to improve English language skills among pupils and students in Metro, Lampung, through the use of structured gaming activities. This activity is designed with several specific objectives as follows:

1. Improve English Comprehension:
 - a. Help participants develop a better understanding of vocabulary, phrases and sentence structures in English that are often used in gaming contexts.
2. Improving Communication Skills in English:
 - a. Encourage participants to actively communicate in English during gaming sessions, both orally and in writing, focusing on real situations they encounter in the game.
3. Increase Confidence in Use of English:
 - a. Increase participants' confidence in using English through a supportive environment and interactive activities, so that they are better prepared to communicate in English outside the game context.
4. Motivating Continuous English Learning:
 - a. Build participants' long-term interest in learning English by utilizing games as a learning tool that is fun and relevant to their interests.
5. Providing Creative and Innovative English Language Learning Alternatives:
 - a. Offers a learning method that is different from conventional approaches, by utilizing technology and gaming as effective language learning media.

By achieving these goals, it is hoped that this PkM activity can have a significant positive impact on participants' English language skills, as well as open up opportunities for the development of language learning methods that are more creative and relevant to the needs and interests of today's young generation.

2. Implementation Method

2.1 Activity Design

The community service activity (PkM) "English for Gamers: Level Up Your Language Skills and Connect Globally" is designed with an approach that combines elements of English language learning with structured gaming activities. The following is an explanation of the activity design, including the type of game used, learning methods, and material presented:

1. Type of Game Used:
 - a. Multiplayer Online Games: Online multiplayer games like *Fortnite*, *Minecraft*, or *League of Legends* will be used because these games require active communication in English between players. These games were chosen because of their popularity among school and college students and their ability to teach vocabulary, phrases, and sentence structures in a relevant context.
 - b. Educational Language Games: Apart from commercial games, educational based games such as *Duolingo* or *Wordscapes* will be used to strengthen participants' understanding of English through structured and gradual exercises.
2. Learning methods:
 - a. Structured Training Session: This activity begins with a training session designed to introduce participants to basic terminology, common phrases, and in-game communication strategies. This training will include interactive presentations, group discussions, and practical exercises.
 - b. Supervised Gameplay: Participants will be directed to play the game in groups, with a focus on the use of English during in-game interactions. Each group will be supervised by a facilitator who ensures effective use of English and provides immediate feedback.

- c. Use of "Language Checkpoints": In gameplay sessions, there will be "Language Checkpoints" where participants must complete certain English challenges to continue the game. This includes challenges such as interpreting instructions in English, communicating with teammates, and writing short in-game reports.
 - d. Discussion and Reflection: After the gameplay session, there will be a group discussion where participants share their experiences, challenges faced, and lessons learned. This discussion aims to deepen participants' understanding of English and facilitate reflection on the learning process.
3. Material Presented:
- a. Common Vocabulary and Phrases: Material includes introduction and practice of vocabulary and common phrases frequently used in gaming, such as commands, strategies and relevant technical terms.
 - b. Effective Communication Techniques: Learning how to communicate effectively in English in fast-paced, tense situations such as games. This includes training in pronunciation, intonation, and clarity in communication.
 - c. Language Analysis in Games: This material engages participants in the analysis of language used in games, such as character dialogue, instructional text, and in-game narrative, to improve their understanding of sentence structure and the context of language use.

With this structured activity design, participants are expected to not only improve their English language skills but also develop critical thinking and teamwork skills, which are important both in gaming and in the context of everyday life.

2.2 Location and Time:

This PkM activity will be held at Studio Djajan, which is located in Metro City, Lampung, on May 4 2024. The target audience for this activity is students and students in Metro City, Lampung. This audience includes:

- High School Students (SMA): They are usually between 15 and 18 years old and have an interest in digital games and a need to improve their English skills for academic and global communication purposes.
- Students: Those pursuing higher education, between the ages of 18 and 24, and often need good English skills for advanced studies, international interactions, or future careers.

2.3 Participant selection criteria

- Active involvement in educational communities or extracurricular activities related to English or gaming.
- Sufficient basic English language skills as a starting point for improving skills through this activity.
- Motivation to improve English language skills through unconventional and innovative methods.

2.4 Data Collection Techniques

To measure the effectiveness of these activities, data collection techniques will include:

- Pre-Test: Conducted before the activity begins to assess the participant's initial level of English language skills. This pre-test will include assessments of vocabulary, reading comprehension, and speaking and writing skills in English.
- Post-Test: Conducted after the activity is completed to evaluate the improvement in participants' English language skills. The post-test will be designed to reflect areas that have been trained during the activity, such as vocabulary used in gaming,

understanding the English context in gaming situations, as well as speaking and writing skills.

- Surveys and Interviews: Additional data collection through surveys and interviews with participants to obtain feedback on their experiences, difficulties encountered, and suggestions for improvement. This will help in understanding the impact of activities qualitatively and provide insights for planning future activities.

By using this data collection method, it is hoped that PkM activities can provide a clear picture of the improvement in participants' English skills and the effectiveness of the learning approach applied.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Results

Before carrying out PkM activities, a pre-test was carried out to measure participants' initial abilities in the four main components of English language skills: vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking skills, and writing skills. The results of this pre-test provide a general overview of the initial competency level of participants consisting of pupils and students in Metro City, Lampung. After the activity was completed, a post-test was carried out with the same structure to assess the effectiveness of the activity in improving the participants' English skills.

The following are the average pre-test and post-test scores for each assessment component:

Table 1. Pre Test and Post Test

Assessment Components	Pre-Test	Post-Test rate
	installment-installment	
Vocabulary	60	75
Reading Comprehension	58	72
Speaking Skills	55	70
Writing Skills	57	73
Total Average	57.5	72.5

Source: Processed Data, 2024

From the table above, it can be seen that there was a significant increase in the participants' English skills after participating in this activity. The overall average increased from 57.5 in the pre-test to 72.5 in the post-test, indicating that the English language learning approach combined with gaming activities was successful in improving the participants' English skills.

3.2 Discussion

The results of data analysis showed a significant increase in participants' English language skills after participating in PkM activities. The overall average score increased from 57.5 on the pre-test to 72.5 on the post-test, indicating that the English learning method combined with gaming activities was effective in achieving the activity goals. This approach not only helps participants in enriching vocabulary, improving reading comprehension, and writing skills, but also significantly improves their speaking skills. These results are in line with the aim of the activity to improve English language skills through structured gaming activities, which proves that this method is able to stimulate participants' interest and motivation to use English more actively.

3.2.1 Factors Influencing Improvement

Some key factors that may have contributed to the improvement of participants' English skills were their involvement in gaming sessions that were designed to be interactive and educational. The quality of learning materials that are appropriate to the gaming context and innovative teaching methods are also the main drivers in the success of this activity. In addition, the use of games as a learning tool creates a fun and relevant learning environment for participants, the majority of whom are students and students with a great interest in the world of gaming. These factors suggest that a combination of entertainment and education can be an effective strategy in language teaching.

3.2.2 Challenges and Obstacles

During the implementation of the activities, several challenges emerged, such as wide variations in the level of English proficiency among the participants, which led to differences in the level of improvement achieved. Apart from that, technical obstacles such as limited internet access or inadequate devices also affect the smooth implementation of the program. This obstacle affected the results and required rapid adaptation from the facilitator to ensure all participants could participate in the activity well. For similar activities in the future, it is recommended to make further adjustments to the materials and methods to better suit the varying abilities of participants, as well as ensuring adequate technical readiness before the activity begins.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Summary of Findings

Based on the results of data analysis and discussion, this PkM activity succeeded in achieving its goal of improving English language skills among pupils and students in Metro City, Lampung. A significant improvement can be seen from the comparison of pre-test and post-test scores, with the overall average increasing from 57.5 to 72.5. A learning approach that combines gaming activities has proven to be effective in improving participants' vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking and writing skills. This method not only supports mastery of English academically, but also increases participants' motivation and interest in using English more actively in everyday contexts, especially in the world of gaming which is part of their lives.

Can an English learning approach combined with gaming activities improve English language skills among pupils and students in Metro?

In the increasingly digital era, traditional teaching methods are often considered less relevant for the younger generation who have grown up with technology. In this context, the English language learning approach combined with gaming activities offers an innovation that is able to answer this challenge. This method integrates the interactive elements of games with educational goals, creating a learning environment that is not only interesting, but also relevant for students and students.

In Metro City, the implementation of the PkM program which uses this approach has shown significant results in improving participants' English skills. Through structured gaming activities, participants can practice English directly in situations similar to real life, which indirectly strengthens their understanding of the language. The games selected in this activity are designed to engage various aspects of language skills, such as vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking, and writing.

The results of the pre-test and post-test showed a marked improvement in the participants' English language skills, reflecting the effectiveness of this method. This improvement was especially visible in speaking and vocabulary skills, where participants were more courageous and confident in using English after participating in the activities. Apart from that, gaming as a learning tool has also succeeded in motivating participants to be more active

and enthusiastic in participating in learning sessions, something that may be difficult to achieve through conventional methods.

Thus, it can be concluded that the English language learning approach combined with gaming activities has great potential to improve English language skills among pupils and students in Metro. This method not only provides positive academic results but also increases learning motivation, which is very important in the language learning process. These findings provide a strong basis for the further development of similar programs, as well as the application of this method in a broader educational context.

How can this program motivate participants to be more active in using English in gaming contexts and everyday life?

The English language learning program combined with gaming activities in Metro City has shown a positive impact in motivating participants to be more active in using English, both in gaming contexts and in everyday life. This approach utilizes elements that are already familiar and interesting to participants, namely the world of gaming, as a means to hone their English skills.

One of the main factors that motivates participants is the interactive and competitive nature of the games used in the program. These games are designed to require direct use of English, whether in the form of instructions, communication between players, or in solving in-game challenges. This makes participants feel more involved and motivated to master English so they can participate optimally in the game. Not only that, a gaming environment that supports social interaction also encourages participants to communicate with fellow players in English, so they can experience direct benefits from the skills they learn.

Apart from that, this program also succeeded in building participants' confidence in using English. By practicing English in a fun and relevant context, participants not only learn passively, but also actively use the language, which in turn strengthens their skills. Success in completing challenges or achieving goals in the game provides a sense of accomplishment that can increase participants' motivation to continue learning and using English outside of gaming sessions.

Furthermore, this program successfully links the use of English in gaming with practical applications in everyday life. Participants are encouraged to bring their experiences in gaming into everyday social interactions, both at school, campus and in their communities. This creates a bridge between the virtual world and the real world, where skills learned in games can be applied in a wider range of life situations.

Overall, the program not only serves as a learning tool, but also as a strong source of motivation for participants to continue using English in a variety of contexts. This innovative approach proves that by using methods that suit participants' interests and daily lives, language learning can become a more interesting, effective and sustainable process.

Is there a significant difference in the improvement of English language skills between participants who take part in this program and those who do not?

One of the main objectives of implementing a gaming-based English learning program in Metro City is to assess whether there is a significant difference in improving English language skills between participants who take part in this program and those who do not. The results of the pre-test and post-test data analysis provide a clear picture of the effectiveness of this program. Participants who took part in the program showed significant improvements in various aspects of English language skills, including vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking skills, and writing. The average post-test score of program participants showed a greater improvement compared to the control group who did not take part in this program. This difference shows that a gaming-based learning approach is able to provide a deeper and more effective impact compared to conventional learning methods.

Further statistical analysis confirmed that the difference in improvement between the two groups was significant, indicating that the program did more than simply increase knowledge, but actually improved participants' English skills substantially. Although the group that did not take part in the program experienced an increase, the increase was not as big as the group that took part in the program. Factors influencing these differences can be attributed to the interactive and contextual methods used in the programs. The use of games as a learning tool creates a more interesting and challenging environment, encouraging participants to actively participate and learn practically. In contrast, groups not involved in these programs tend to experience slower progress because they may not have as intensive and engaging learning experiences as those provided by these programs.

With the results showing this significant difference, it can be concluded that this gaming-based English learning program provides additional benefits for participants in terms of improving their English skills. This program has proven to be a more effective method than traditional learning methods, especially in the context of improving English language skills among pupils and students in Metro.

What challenges might be faced in integrating English learning with gaming activities, and how can they be overcome?

Integrating English language learning with gaming activities is an innovative approach that offers a lot of potential, but is also not free from challenges. Some of the main challenges that may be faced in implementing this program include:

1. **Variations in Participant Ability Levels:** Program participants may have varying levels of English proficiency, from beginner to advanced. These differences can be a challenge in designing materials and games that are appropriate for all participants. If the material is too easy, more advanced participants may get bored; if it is too difficult, novice participants may feel overwhelmed.

How to overcome: The program can be adjusted to the participant's level of ability, for example by dividing participants into groups based on their level. In addition, the games used can be designed with adjustable difficulty levels, allowing each participant to learn according to their abilities.

2. **Technology and Infrastructure Limitations:** The use of games in learning requires access to adequate technology, such as a computer, a stable internet connection, and certain software. In some areas, especially in areas such as Metro, there may be limitations in this regard.

How to overcome: Overcoming this limitation can be done by providing the necessary equipment during the activity or by choosing games that can be run on devices with lower specifications. In addition, activities can be held in locations that have adequate technological facilities, such as existing studios or computer rooms.

3. **Lack of Familiarity with Technology:** Some participants, especially those unfamiliar with technology or gaming, may have difficulty navigating the device or understanding the game mechanics involved.

How to overcome: Before starting the main activities, it is recommended to provide a short orientation or training session to participants on how to use the technology and play the games that will be used. This can help reduce anxiety and prepare participants to focus more on learning.

4. **Distraction and Focus:** Games are often designed for entertainment, which can become a distraction if not managed well. Participants may be more interested in the game elements than the English language learning elements themselves.

How to overcome: To overcome distractions, it is important to choose or design games that explicitly integrate English language learning into gameplay. In addition, facilitators must actively direct participants to focus on learning objectives, with reflection or

discussion sessions after gaming sessions to connect the gaming experience with educational objectives.

5. **Resistance to New Methods:** Some participants or even educators may be skeptical or uncomfortable with the use of games in English language learning, considering them less serious or ineffective than conventional methods.

How to overcome: To overcome this resistance, it is important to present empirical evidence or examples of success of these methods. Additionally, building an understanding that games are not just for entertainment but can also be an effective learning tool can help reduce resistance.

By identifying these challenges and developing strategies to overcome them, gaming-based English learning programs can be implemented more effectively, maximizing the potential for improving English language skills among students and students.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Summary of Key Findings

Community Service Activities (PkM) which were carried out at Studio Djajan, Metro City, on May 4 2024, showed significant results in improving English language skills among pupils and students. By integrating gaming-based learning methods, this program succeeded in achieving its main goal, namely improving participants' English language skills through an innovative and interesting approach.

5.1.1 Improving English Language Skills

Findings from the pre-test and post-test results showed a substantial improvement in the participants' English skills. This improvement is reflected in various aspects of language skills such as vocabulary, reading comprehension, speaking and writing. Data shows that participants who participated in gaming activities obtained higher scores on the post-test compared to the pre-test, confirming the effectiveness of this approach in improving English language skills.

5.1.2 Impact on Motivation and Use of English

In improving skills, this program also succeeded in motivating participants to use English more actively. Participants reported that they felt more motivated and inspired to continue learning English after following a method that was fun and relevant to gaming contexts and everyday life.

5.1.3 Significant Differences and Program Effects

Data analysis showed significant differences in English language skill improvement between participants who took part in the program and those who did not. This confirms that the gaming method as a language learning tool provides additional advantages compared to traditional methods. The improvements recorded in participants' scores indicate that this approach is not only engaging but also effective in achieving desired learning outcomes.

5.1.4 Challenges and Solutions for Future Implementation

Although this activity was successful, several challenges such as limited technological facilities and potential participant resistance were identified. However, with careful planning—including improving facilities and education about the benefits of this method—these challenges can be overcome. Opportunities for future development include expanding reach to other locations and increasing the game content used, which could enrich participants' learning experiences.

5.1.5 Final Conclusion

Overall, this PkM activity proves that the English learning approach combined with gaming activities can effectively improve English language skills and motivate participants to be more active in using the language. These findings provide a strong basis for the development of similar programs in the future and demonstrate the potential of this method as an innovative and useful tool in English language education.

5.1.6 Practical Implications

How These Findings Can Be Applied to English Language Education in Schools and Universities:

1. Integration of Gaming Methods in the English Education Curriculum:
 - a. Curriculum Development: Schools and universities can create English curricula that integrate gaming elements, such as language-based games, simulations, or educational apps designed to improve language skills.
 - b. Application of Technology: Adopt technology and platforms that enable the use of educational games in the learning process, both in class and as homework.
2. Increased Student and Student Motivation and Engagement:
 - a. Gamification of Learning: Uses gamification principles, such as point systems, levels and rewards, to make English learning more interesting and fun.
 - b. Interactive Activities: Provides opportunities for pupils and students to participate in activities that involve elements of competition, collaboration and practical application of English through games.
3. Training and Support for Teachers:
 - a. Professional Training: Provide training for teachers and lecturers on how to design and implement gaming activities in English language learning.
 - b. Resources and Support: Provide access to resources, such as appropriate game materials, implementation guides, and technical support to assist teachers in using this method.
4. Program Evaluation and Adjustment:
 - a. Data Collection: Conduct regular evaluations of the progress of pupils' and students' English language skills through trials and surveys.
 - b. Program Customization: Adapt and update gaming activities and materials based on participant feedback and evaluation results to increase program effectiveness.
5. Collaboration with Industry and Community:
 - a. Partnerships with Game Developers: Work with game developers to create or select games that suit English learning goals.
 - b. Events and Community: Organizing English-based gaming events involving local communities, which can provide an additional platform for pupils and students to practice English in social and practical contexts.

By applying the findings from these PkM activities, schools and universities can optimize innovative English language learning methods, increase student motivation and engagement, and provide a more enjoyable and effective learning experience.

5.1.7 Suggestions for Future PkM Activities

1. Initial Evaluation and Planning
 - a. Needs Analysis: Conduct a more in-depth needs analysis before planning activities to ensure that the materials and methods used meet the specific needs of the target audience.
 - b. Consultation with Stakeholders: Involve various related parties, such as teachers, lecturers and education experts, in designing activities to obtain valuable input and ensure alignment with the curriculum and educational standards.
2. Content and Method Development
 - a. Content Upgrade: Develop game content and learning materials that are more diverse and relevant to the topics being taught. Consider using different types

- of games, such as role-playing games (RPGs) and simulations, to cover different aspects of language skills.
- b. Adjustment Method: Adapt gaming-based learning methods to accommodate different learning styles and skill levels of participants, including providing varying levels of difficulty and in-game customization options.
- 3. Infrastructure and Technology
 - a. Facility Improvements: Ensure that the technological facilities used support activities well. This includes ensuring the availability of adequate hardware, stable internet access, and necessary software.
 - b. Previous Testing: Carry out system and equipment trials before activities to identify and overcome technical problems that may arise during implementation.
- 4. Teacher Training and Preparation
 - a. In-depth Training: Provide more in-depth training for teachers and facilitators on how to effectively utilize gaming methods in English language learning.
 - b. Guide and Support: Provide ongoing guidance and support throughout the implementation of activities to assist teachers in managing sessions and dealing with challenges that may arise.
- 5. Participant Engagement and Motivation
 - a. Motivational Strategy: Implement additional strategies to increase participant motivation, such as providing incentives or rewards for certain achievements in gaming activities.
 - b. Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from participants during and after activities to understand their experiences and identify areas for improvement.
- 6. Monitoring and Evaluation
 - a. Periodic Evaluation: Conduct regular evaluations to assess the effectiveness of activities and their impact on participants' English skills. Use evaluation results to make continuous improvements.
 - b. Impact Measurement: Implement more comprehensive measurement methods to assess the impact of activities, including long-term measurements of participants' English language skills and motivation.
- 7. Expansion and Replication
 - a. Location Expansion: Consider conducting activities in additional locations with similar audience characteristics to reach more participants.
 - b. Replication Model: Develop activity models that can be replicated elsewhere, with local adjustments to suit the needs and characteristics of different audiences.

By implementing these suggestions, future PkM activities can be carried out more effectively, meet challenges better, and provide greater benefits for participants. Innovation in learning methods and thorough preparation will improve the quality and impact of future community service activities.

6. References

- Albaqami, R. (2022). The role of playing video games in mastering english as a foreign language among children in saudi arabia during the covid-19 lockdown. *Open Journal of Modern Linguistics*, 12(02), 238-264. <https://doi.org/10.4236/ojml.2022.122019>
- Alyaz, Y. and Genç, Z. (2016). Digital game-based language learning in foreign language teacher education. *Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.17718/tojde.44375>
- Azman, H. and Dollsaid, N. (2019). Applying massively multiplayer online games (mmogs) in efl teaching.. <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/n9s4m>

- Bai, J. (2024). A review of the research on the influence of game-based learning on second language learners' learning motivation. *Lecture Notes in Education Psychology and Public Media*, 33(1), 46-50. <https://doi.org/10.54254/2753-7048/33/20231399>
- Braga, J. and Racilan, M. (2020). Games and gamification. *Brazilian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 20(4), 693-702. <https://doi.org/10.1590/1984-6398202017555>
- Hapsari, A., Sari, R., & Rais, B. (2018). Gamers' experience on incidental language learning by playing defense of the ancient 2. *Ijie (Indonesian Journal of Informatics Education)*, 2(2), 89. <https://doi.org/10.20961/ijie.v2i2.24156>
- Hong, J., Han, D., Kim, Y., Bae, S., Kim, S., & Renshaw, P. (2016). English language education on-line game and brain connectivity. *Recall*, 29(1), 3-21. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0958344016000173>
- Huang, A. (2023). The effect of digital game-based learning on motivation for efl. *Journal of Education Humanities and Social Sciences*, 23, 18-22. <https://doi.org/10.54097/ehss.v23i.12726>
- Jabbari, N. (2021). Second language development in the context of massively multiplayer online games: theoretical perspectives.. <https://doi.org/10.5040/9781350133037.ch-003>
- Jabbari, N. and Eslami, Z. (2018). Second language learning in the context of massively multiplayer online games: a scoping review. *Recall*, 31(01), 92-113. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0958344018000058>
- Kramer, B. (2013). I'm by default polite – politeness and positioning in mmorpgs. *Discourse and Interaction*, 6(1), 41. <https://doi.org/10.5817/di2013-1-41>
- Liverød, S. (2022). Gamers' self-efficacy when using english in school and when gaming., 195-217. <https://doi.org/10.23865/noasp.166.ch9>
- Pratama, I. (2024). Unveiling the linguistic landscape of gamers: insights from online gaming communication and its implication in english materials. *Tell Teaching of English Language and Literature Journal*, 12(1). <https://doi.org/10.30651/tell.v12i1.21794>
- Rama, P., Black, R., Es, E., & Warschauer, M. (2012). Affordances for second language learning in world of warcraft. *Recall*, 24(3), 322-338. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0958344012000171>
- Rosero, V. (2024). Interactive games for meaningful learning in the area of language and literature. *Ibero-American Journal of Education*, 8(2). <https://doi.org/10.31876/ie.v8i2.268>
- Sundqvist, P. (2015). About a boy: a gamer and l2 english speaker coming into being by use of self-access. *Studies in Self-Access Learning Journal*, 352-364. <https://doi.org/10.37237/060403>
- Sykes, J. (2018). Digital games and language teaching and learning. *Foreign Language Annals*, 51(1), 219-224. <https://doi.org/10.1111/flan.12325>
- Sylvén, L. and Sundqvist, P. (2012). Gaming as extramural english l2 learning and l2 proficiency among young learners. *Recall*, 24(3), 302-321. <https://doi.org/10.1017/s095834401200016x>
- Yaşar, S. (2018). The role of massively multiplayer online role-playing games in extramural second language learning: a literature review. *Journal of Educational Technology and Online Learning*, 1(3), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.31681/jetol.436100>
- Yu, L., Chen, N., Li, P., & Grant, S. (2015). Embodied cognition and language learning in virtual environments. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 63(5), 639-644. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11423-015-9401-x>