Vol.8, No.2, July 2023, pp. 19-37

ISSN: 2407-0742

Available Resources of English Story Telling on Spotify to Enhance Listening Comprehension Skills

Hidayah Nor¹, Abdul Hair²

¹hidayahnor@uin-antasari.ac.id
¹Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari Banjarmasin
² Asuskhair@gmail.com
² Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari Banjarmasin

ABSTRACT

Learning a new language encompasses various skills, including writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Developing listening comprehension abilities can be particularly challenging and requires consistent practice. An effective approach to improving listening skills is through exposure to audio storytelling. However, language learners often struggle to locate suitable content for this purpose. This study aims to identify and analyze audio storytelling resources available on the Spotify platform, specifically accessible to students. The analysis of these resources will facilitate a better understanding of their content and provide opportunities for practicing listening comprehension. The research adopts a qualitative approach, utilizing a content analysis method to evaluate the available content on Spotify. The researcher explored the platform to identify audio storytelling content and assess their potential for enhancing listening abilities. Factors such as content types, popularity, difficulty levels, and activity rates were considered during the analysis. The findings revealed three prominent channels on Spotify that specialize in audio storytelling content. These channels are popular among Spotify users, actively upload new content at least once a week, and offer content with varying difficulty levels. Each channel contains a rich collection of audio stories, encompassing grammatical and vocabulary aspects tailored to different difficulty levels, along with opportunities for exploring diverse cultures

Keywords: Available Resources, English Story Telling, Listening Comprehension, Spotify

1. INTRODUCTION

The advantages of employing real listening resources, including audio books and podcasts, to assist students improve their listening comprehension have long been recognized by many language teachers. Because it exposes them to real speech patterns, colloquial idioms, and cultural references that are frequently challenging to mimic in a classroom context, audio storytelling can be particularly useful for language learners.

Language learners now have easier access to a wide range of audio storytelling content thanks to the popularity of streaming services like Spotify. For language learners, many content producers are now creating audio stories that can be accessed and listened to at any time. As a result, students are now able to listen to real audio stories at their own pace and repeat any passages that they find challenging.

Particularly, the usage of audio storytelling has grown in popularity on websites like Spotify, providing listeners with a new method to interact with stories and information. In contrast to reading or watching, audio storytelling is a type of narrative storytelling that is only heard. As people interact with stories through aural channels, it presents listeners with a special opportunity to improve their listening abilities. Audio storytelling has the potential to improve listening skills, especially for people who have trouble with conventional reading and comprehension techniques.

Despite audio storytelling's rising popularity, there is a dearth of study on the tools and audio storytelling content that can aid language learners in improving their listening skills. Even though research on the advantages of reading and storytelling has been done, nothing is known about how audio storytelling can help people improve their listening skills. By examining the audio storytelling content available on Spotify and assessing its potential to improve listening skills, the current study attempts to fill this research gap.

This study is significant because listening is a crucial part of communication and a necessary skill in many spheres of daily life, such as social interactions, employment, and education. However, many students struggle with listening because it is frequently disregarded in the educational system. A useful tool for educators and parents, audio storytelling has the potential to improve listening skills pleasantly and interestingly.

The goal of this study is to examine the various storytelling aspects and tactics employed in the audio stories that are accessible on Spotify. This study attempts to determine the characteristics of these audio stories that make them useful for enhancing various listening abilities, including comprehension, vocabulary, and active listening. The study will also look at how technological aspects like interactive elements and sound effects can affect how people listen.

For schools, parents, and media creators who are interested in using audio storytelling as a useful technique for improving listening skills, the study's findings may have significant ramifications. The findings can help advance the developing field of digital media research and shed light on how to make the most of digital media tools to foster efficient learning and communication.

In summary, this study will offer insightful information about the possible benefits of audio storytelling for improving listening skills. This study tries to determine the characteristics that make the audio stories on Spotify useful for improving various listening skills by examining the storytelling strategies and materials present in them. The results of this study will benefit educators, parents, and media creators while also adding to the expanding body of knowledge about digital media.

The study provides information that teachers and other educational professionals can use to better understand how digital media affects students' learning, cognitive growth, and communication abilities. They can use this information to create teaching strategies that are more productive and properly incorporate digital media into the classroom. The research's conclusions can help parents better grasp the benefits and drawbacks of exposing their kids to digital media. It might provide advice on how parents control screen time, select suitable media content, and encourage their children' academic endeavors. The study's findings can be used by those who are involved in producing digital media material, such as app developers, content producers, and media firms, to create more interesting, educative, and responsible media content for their target consumers.

The study seeks to advance our understanding of digital media. It implies that the study will advance the field by bringing fresh knowledge, information, or viewpoints. This increase in knowledge is essential for improving our comprehension of how digital media affects numerous facets of life, such as communication, development, and education. This study has the potential to reveal both beneficial and detrimental effects of digital media on users and learners. The study may highlight risk factors or disadvantages, illuminate optimal practices, and provide guidance or recommendations for the responsible use of digital media. The findings of the study might result in the creation of useful tools, regulations, or interventions for teachers, parents, and media producers. These resources can help optimize the use of digital media for educational purposes and positive outcomes while mitigating potential risks.

In previous research, Azira & Damayanti (2022) discuss employing audio storytelling to instruct listening skills students in vocational high school. Students in this study journal expressed great interest in listening to audio storytelling because of the intonation. Students favored using technology to personally create and read stories, according to Sabrina.

In the second previous study, Sutjiati, Sumardi, and Zainudin (2016) discovered that EFL (English as a Foreign Language) students' listening comprehension skills can be enhanced by listening to audio storytelling. Students must listen a lot in order to practice listening. However, students hardly ever communicate with one another in English. Therefore, employing technology to listen to English spoken language would truly help to get experiences. Technology wisdom is very helpful in this regard. Additionally, digital platforms provide a variety of content that may aid in the process of experience acquisition.

Ainiah discovered that the majority of English education students lacked digital literacy skills. She divided digital utilization into the following categories: finding, accessing, analyzing, and assembling. Only a select few students can access; the majority of students can only find (Ainiah, 2021). It is alarming that most students are unable to locate and access content on digital platforms.

Apriliani (2022) focused on first-year English education students favorable opinions of using podcasts to improve listening comprehension abilities. When incorporating podcasts into language learning curriculum, educators can make use of and build on the areas where podcasts' strengths and flaws have been recognized. Understanding the difficulties students have might help educators create plans that address engagement and attentiveness during podcast listening activities.

Sihombing & Simanjuntak (2023) demonstrated how digital audio, in particular online podcasting on services like Spotify, can improve English listening skills among Indonesian EFL students. The results highlight the value of including digital audio materials in the language learning curriculum to promote strong listening comprehension abilities.

Sičová (2023) examined the potential advantages of using podcasts in EFL instruction, particularly for enhancing teenage students' listening abilities. The approach of the study includes a number of evaluations to fully examine how podcasts affect participants' listening skills.

Liu (2023) ended with pedagogical advice on how to successfully incorporate podcasts into EAP classrooms. By utilizing the rich and varied information offered in academic podcasts, these recommendations seek to maximize students' engagement and language learning results. As EAP courses improve, using podcasts as a useful pedagogical tool can offer a fresh and efficient method of enhancing language proficiency and subject-matter understanding.

Ikrima (2023) demonstrated the value of employing podcast audio-assisted learning as a strategy to improve students' listening comprehension abilities. A useful and efficient strategy for enhancing language learning results is the use of podcast materials into the curriculum. This study adds to the expanding body of data that supports the use of digital audio resources in language instruction. The use of podcast audio-assisted learning stands out as a powerful and interesting solution for language educators looking for novel ways to overcome the difficulties of listening comprehension.

The amount of content the internet provides is almost infinite; there were millions of contents, millions are currently available, and millions more will be added. There is a ton of content that can help students improve their listening skills, even on platforms they frequently use like Spotify. However, to find the right content, students still need recommendations. Spotify's listening comprehension tools offer students a variety of audio content, exposure to real language, flexibility, and chances for recurrent practice. The consistent and pleasurable usage of Spotify can considerably help students' overall English language fluency and listening comprehension.

Based on all that was mentioned above, the researcher decided to search for and filter the aforementioned content on Spotify that focuses on audio narrative to locate a suitable channel that would improve listening skills.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study's research methodology is qualitative content analysis or content analysis. The framework for content analysis is theory-driven (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). The paradigm of naturalistic interpretation affects qualitative research. They try to construct reality and understand its significance by paying close attention to processes, events, and intensity. The study topic had to be crystal defined, and all subsequent efforts had to be directed toward reaching that goal to use the content analysis approach. was built based on

the literature review. In this study, audio storytelling content from Spotify was examined specifically from well-liked, active channels with a storytelling content emphasis. Following the extraction of the content, its characteristics, difficulty, and prospective outcome were examined.

English-language Easy Stories was the first channel. The focus of the content provider on this channel is audio storytelling. It is a rating of 4,9 out of 5 by more than 1000 Spotify users indicating that it is one of the most popular narrative channels. It features 172 distinct stories that are divided into three levels according to their degree of difficulty: beginning level, intermediate level, and advanced level. Every two weeks, this channel is still live and uploading new audio. Nice English Stories was the second channel. This channel specialized in offering content that told stories. It features more than 72 submitted contents that are divided into three levels based on the degree of difficulty: entry-level, intermediate-level, and advanced level.

The final channel was M.A. Bibrough's Practicing English. More than 130 stories have been published on this channel, and they are divided into three levels based on difficulty: beginning level, middle level, and advanced level. Every week, the channel still uploads audio. On Spotify, 211 users have given this channel an average rating of 4.8 out of 5.

This research was carried out using paperwork, and the researcher started by searching on Spotify for channels that offered audio storytelling content. The channels were then filtered to match the researcher's categories. Focus, popularity, and rate of activity are the categories. The researcher next removed some of the channels based on criteria they had established.

The study cut out other channels that didn't specialize in audio storytelling content, like Listening Time, which also included some podcasts. Then, a few channels with low appeal, like Stories for Kids and Fairy Tales, which had ratings below three, were also taken down. Finally, channels with low activity rates were also removed, including English Stories, which had stopped contributing new content, and English Stories Taller, which only added new content every two to three months. According to each channel's difficulty level, the researcher downloaded a sample of audio that was chosen at random using the random sampling approach.

The researcher used the content analysis method to examine the data that had been gathered. Neuendorf (2016), a subject-matter authority, claims that content analysis is a ELTICS

research technique that methodically evaluates and analyses communication messages. The technique can be used to examine many text-based data types, including written texts, photographs, and audio recordings. According to Ghonny and Almanshur (2012), the researcher employed this method to study the data and come to a better understanding. The analytic approach included a number of steps, such as choosing the audio narrative content, figuring out the unit, identifying the categories, choosing the final categories, and lastly evaluating and interpreting the data.

The researcher used the content analysis method to examine the data that had been gathered. Neuendorf (2016), a subject-matter authority, claims that content analysis is a research technique that methodically evaluates and analyses communication messages. The technique can be used to examine many text-based data types, including written texts, photographs, and audio recordings. According to Ghonny and Almanshur (2012), the researcher employed this method to study the data and come to a better understanding. The analytic approach included a number of steps, such as choosing the audio narrative content, figuring out the unit, identifying the categories, choosing the final categories, and lastly evaluating and interpreting the data.

It takes a few steps to analyze the information about the English storytelling materials that are available on Spotify to improve listening comprehension. Here is a detailed explanation of how to carry out the analysis:

- 1. Find out more about the English storytelling resources on Spotify. In addition to the target audience (for example, beginning, intermediate, or advanced), this information may also include the title of the podcast, episode descriptions, categories or genres, duration, and any other metadata that can be used to classify and rate the material.
- 2. Create categories from the data that have been gathered that make sense. For instance, the researchers divided the podcasts into categories based on the genres (such as fairytales, mysteries, and historical fiction), the degree of difficulty (such as beginner-friendly, advanced), the intended audience (such as kids, teenagers, and adults), or any other pertinent factors.
- 3. Consider listening to or sampling a few episodes from each category. Make notes on the storytelling techniques, terminology used, the level of language complexity, and any other observations that may affect listener comprehension.

ISSN: 2407-0742

4. To reach meaningful conclusions, interpret the data and findings. The researchers find patterns or trends that point to the Spotify resources for storytelling that are most useful for improving listening comprehension.

5. Write a report or research paper that is well-structured and summarizes the data analysis procedure, findings, and conclusions. The researchers present the findings succinctly so that educators, language learners, and researchers who are working to improve listening comprehension abilities can use the English storytelling resources on Spotify to do so.

By using these procedures, researchers can methodically examine the information about the English storytelling resources that are offered on Spotify and get insightful knowledge on how well they might improve listening comprehension abilities for speakers of various language competence levels and learning preferences.

3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS (Times New Roman 12pt, Bold, Capitalized)

The study discovered that the audio narrative offered by the aforementioned channels has a great deal of potential to aid users in developing their listening skills. Excellent character, setting, story, subject, point of view, and tone elements may be found throughout the text. Every one of the contents is also jam-packed with fresh vocabulary and grammar that has been adjusted for difficulty.

3.1. Easy Stories in English

The investigation demonstrates that the content quality of Easy Stories in English varies depending on the level of difficulty. Beginner difficulties frequently have an overly childlike feel to them. However, the intermediate difficulty is flawlessly balanced. The speed, tone, pronunciation, and vocabulary are all precisely in line with the level of difficulty.

First audio storytelling analysis, from Easy Stories in English. For beginners, listen to this audio narrative. The narrative is of the horror variety and centers on Rory, a girl who has always wanted a pet but whose parents disapprove of the idea. When Rory graduates from college, he intends to adopt a pet. Then, after getting a puppy, things start to go wrong.

The Perfect Pet

Rory had always been an animal lover. But he grew up with two very mean parents. His mother said she had allergies, but every time he asked her what the allergies were, they changed. If he wanted a cat, she was allergic to cats. If he wanted a fish, she was allergic to fishes. If he wanted to go to the zoo, she was allergic to crowds.

Because there is no distracting noise and the audio is very clear, it is quite nice to listen to. It's not monotonous to listen to because there are also audio effects like instrument music. The story lasts about 9 minutes out of the total 24:43 minutes of the audio. Introduction, marketing, and an explanation of some unfamiliar words take up the first seven minutes. The story begins at minute 8 and lasts until minute 17, with the last six minutes devoted to a discussion of the cultural study of pet names.

The audio provides some language, which is basic vocabulary for new listeners. To help the audience comprehend the story better, many vocabulary have been simplified. There is some unfamiliar vocabulary, but the narrator explained a few of them at the start of the podcast.

The grammar is perfect throughout. Simple past tense verbs are used frequently in the narrative to explain previous occurrences, but present tense verbs are also employed when talking about Rory's routine activities, such as going to the dog park and the cat park every day. In addition, the past continuous tense is employed to depict ongoing actions, and the past perfect tense is utilized to denote finished actions that occurred before a specific time.

Additionally, there are complicated sentences containing independent and dependent clauses throughout the narrative. Characters and pets are described with adjectives; comparative and superlative forms are rarely employed.

In conclusion, the text uses a variety of grammatical constructions to describe Rory's search for a suitable pet. It combines past-tense verbs, simple and complex sentences, and descriptive adjectives. Audio storytelling for the intermediate level is the subject of the second study of this channel. This is a children's story in which a cat and mouse are described as being close friends. Everyone refers to them as the "Strange Friends" and they share a home. However, they must purchase food and store it for the winter. They fill the church with fat after getting a pot of it, but the cat starts to eat.

Strange Friends

Once upon a time, there was a cat and a mouse who lived together in a little house. Unlike others of her kind, the cat did not chase and eat the mouse, which meant that they could be friends, and friends they were. Everyone called them the 'strange friends', and they lived a peaceful life in the city.

The audio is of extremely high quality, with sounds that are crystal clear and enjoyable to hear, with no noises, and intriguing due to various effects like instruments and expressions. The audio is 22:40 minutes long, and the story lasts roughly 9 minutes. The first eight minutes are dedicated to introductions, advertisements, and definitions of unusual words. From minute 10 until minute 20, the story begins. The final two minutes are used to close and include promotions.

This audio's vocabulary is at the intermediate level. An altar, imagination, christening, anticipation, spare (gift), good things occur in threes, from top to bottom, discourage, gravely, and evoke memories are some unusual words supplied by the audio. The story employs a variety of grammatical forms.

It primarily uses conditional sentences to represent fictitious scenarios, simple past tense verbs to describe past events, and modal verbs to denote possibility, permission, or duty. Information is also communicated through reported speech and the passive voice. The narrative also uses gerunds and infinitives to serve as nouns or adjectives, as well as comparative and superlative adjectives to compare various elements. The author uses these grammatical constructions to further the tale, which centers on two pals and a greedy cat.

For advanced listeners, Easy Stories in English's third audio analysis is provided. The fantasy story has many lessons that might help us think about the purpose of existence and discusses the end of life as we know it.

The End

The waves jumped and crashed, cymbals without drums. She stared out to the horizon, wishing that an answer would rise over it, but nothing broke the thin blue line which melted into the muddy white clouds like sugar.

We can hear all of the words because of the excellent audio quality. This audio is free of any distracting noise. The auditory effect, like a musical instrument, is also included, and it is enjoyable to hear.

ELTICS

Vol.8, No.2, July 2023, pp. 19-37

The story starts at minute 14 and lasts until minute 21 in this 22:38-minute audio file. About 9 minutes pass during the story. The first 14 minutes consist of introductions, advertisements, and definitions of rare words. Regarding cultural exploration, there is no justification. Two minutes remain for closure.

There are a few rare words in the audio, including the following: buzzard, deliberate, bioregionalism, catharsis, cymbals, horizon, millennium, curl up, solace, roar, tinnitus, lament, umbilical cord, anguish, cannibalism, base instincts, blossom, and tapestry. These are advanced-level vocabulary that are rarely used in learning materials.

A variety of syntactic devices, such as simple and complicated phrases, adjectives, similes, parallel structures, and personification, are used throughout the narrative. The detailed and colorful adjectives employed in the chapter paint a clear picture of the post-apocalyptic environment.

The story also uses parallel construction to highlight specific words and compound and complex sentences to convey meaning. Personification is the practice of giving non-human objects human traits to enrich descriptions. These linguistic devices are used to illustrate a post-apocalyptic environment in an evocative way.

3.2. Lovely English Stories

The examination of Spotify's Lovely English Stories, which was the second channel. Beginning English speakers should read this narrative. What Is Your Job? is the title of the story. The narrative describes several jobs.

What is Your Job

There are lots of different jobs you could do or careers you could have in your life. Maybe you are a student. if you are a student then you go to school, college or university. you could also be a part-time student meaning you work during the day and study in the evenings. If you are a student, you study something.

Because there is no distracting background and the audio quality sounds good, it is quite easy to grasp what the narrator is saying. There are no sound effects; the only sound is the narrator's voice. Since the audio is being played at a very slow speed, beginners can hear it better. The audio is 10 minutes long, however the tale only lasts for 5 minutes. The opening is just around 15 seconds long, then the story continues until minute 5. The narrator explains

the vocabulary from the story after it has concluded. Some vocabulary is provided in the audio. There are vocabularies for beginners and for intermediate speakers.

There are several words like "builder," "employed," "firefighter," "government," "officer," "public service," "writer," "civil servant," "pension," and "plumber." To make the meaning clearer, the narrator also provides vocabulary explanations. The transcript expresses many concepts on employment and careers using a variety of grammatical patterns. To provide details about various vocations and career routes, it uses conditional sentences, relative clauses, comparatives, question tags, coordinating conjunctions, and subordinating conjunctions. For instance, it covers the advantages and disadvantages of working for oneself or a business, as well as the extensive schooling required to become a doctor. Overall, the transcript use these forms to instruct and motivate readers to choose a profession they find fulfilling.

For intermediate level listeners, Lovely English Stories' second audio is available. This narrative is motivational in nature; it discusses how to live life gratefully and enthusiastically in order to be content no matter what happens.

Restless

I feel the need for change again. I don't like to stay in one place for too long and yet, at the same time, I am a home bird. when I'm away I miss my family and friends, the food, the people, and the sense of belonging. but when I stay at home for too long, I begin to feel trapped and bored. I long for more. I crave excitement and adventure. it's not that I think the grass is greener on the other side because I don't necessarily think it is. it's more of a feeling of trying to see and do as much as I can, while I can.

It sounds clear and there are no distracting noises, which makes the audio quality quite enjoyable to listen to. This lacks all sound effects and simply has the narrator's voice.

The audio is approximately 7 minutes long and has an overall duration of 11:03 minutes. The introduction is followed by the story until minute 8 of the audio. A description of the idioms and vocabulary from the story is provided in the second section.

Idioms like "the grass is greener" and "to rear (its ugly head)" are utilized throughout this novel. The narrator of the audio has described these idioms. Consequently, the meaning was simple for the viewers to grasp.

The story provides some vocabulary, including the terms belonging, focus, majority, exploration, incomplete, alleyway, and guilty. The vocabulary is typical for intermediate and advanced readers. Here are a few more sophisticated English words: contradiction, want, afar, restless.

The story uses a variety of well-formed, grammatically sound sentences, including simple, compound, and complex ones. Both possibility and obligation are expressed using different verb tenses and modal verbs. Conjunctions, articles, and prepositions are correctly utilized to link concepts and create logical sentences. In general, the text uses a variety of linguistic constructions to convey the author's desire for adventure and change.

For advanced-level listeners is Lovely English Stories' third audiobook. This narrative is about natural events; it discusses wintertime nature, which can be both amazing and terrifying.

The Wintry Walk

As Dawn broke a freezing chill filled the air. through the condensation on the windows, I could see a blanket of white snow, inviting in its twinkly softness as far as the eye could see. All was quiet, calm and still on this beautiful, tranquil morning. The breathtaking view was compelling. I needed to be part of it!

Because there is no distracting background and the audio quality sounds good, it is quite easy to grasp what the narrator is saying. There are no audio effects; the only sound is the narrator's voice. The audio speed is appropriate for the advanced level.

Although the audio is 9 minutes long, the story only lasts around 5 minutes. The story continues in the audio through minute five after the introduction. The narrator explains some of the story's language in the next section.

Advanced English words like paradise, similar, simple, calm, veil, chill, coldness, crystal, horizon, ruthless, enticing, tantalizing, smelling, shrouded, pristine, and retrace are employed throughout the text.

Both of the narrative passages employ a variety of grammatical constructions, such as the simple past tense, present continuous tense, simple present tense, modal verbs (would), adverbial phrases (in the morning, on the horizon), prepositions (over, under, through), coordinating conjunctions (but), subordinating conjunctions (as, when), and adjectives and

ISSN: 2407-0742

adverbs to describe the setting. The scenery is also described in both paragraphs using noun phrases and figurative language, such as the metaphor "dancing on ice with your soul" and the simile "like silver stars falling."

3.3. Practicing English

The fact that this channel consistently uploads new content each week and that it has a large selection of audio narrative content is commendable. However, the content on this channel is only geared toward intermediate listeners. Here is a sample of the content that needs to be evaluated.

Winter in Marbella

(a story with 'too' and 'enough')

Fred Jones was spending his first summer holiday in Marbella in the south of Spain. He was really enjoying himself. He especially loved the weather. The days were always warm. The skies were always blue. The sea was always warm too. He never felt too cold when he went for a swim.

The content is for intermediate-level listeners, according to the analysis of the audio storytelling collected from Practicing English. The comedy-style tale centers on a man named Fred who is taking advantage of his holiday in the southern Spanish city of Marbella. The difficulty began when he got so caught up in the environment there that he forgot himself.

Due to the clarity of the sounds and the absence of distracting noise, the audio quality is really enjoyable to hear. The auditory effects, including instrument music, add to the enjoyment of the story.

The audio file is 11:54 minutes long, although the story is only 4 minutes long. The first eight minutes are dedicated to a brief introduction and an explanation of when to use the phrases "too" and "enough."

The terminology is common for intermediate listeners and is included in the audio. To help the audience comprehend the story better, many vocabulary have been simplified. This anecdote is humorous because of the mimicry the narrator utilized.

The majority of the grammatical structure is written in the simple past tense and refers to previous events. The setting is described using words like "warm," "blue," "cheap," "comfortable," "long," and "expensive." The third paragraph uses an English idiom to denote the conclusion of Fred's time in Marbella. In the speech and character response to a disagreement in the text, Fred chooses to inquire about the winter weather in Marbella rather than argue or become agitated.

The purpose of this study was to examine how various Spotify channels that offer audio storytelling content as a learning resource can enhance listening abilities. To achieve this goal, the research includes research questions about which Spotify channels offer audio storytelling content, are well-liked by Spotify users, have a high rate of activity, and have classified their content into levels of difficulty and how the contents will improve listening skills.

This study thoroughly searched Spotify channels that offer audio storytelling content to address the research topic. Easy Stories in English, Lovely English Stories, and Practicing English are just a few of the channels the researcher discovered that fit our inclusion criteria.

These channels were chosen due to their wide popularity among Spotify users, high activity levels, and ability to categorize their content into different levels of difficulty.

This research review of these channels demonstrates that they provide a wide variety of audio stories, including fairy tales, folklore from throughout the world, instructive, contemporary mystery, suspense stories, and more. Each channel divides its content into many categories of difficulty, ranging from beginner to advanced, making it simple for listeners to choose material appropriate for their level of language competence. Additionally, we've discovered that the channel often adds fresh content, guaranteeing that listeners have access to a steady supply of audio tale content.

Some audio narrative materials from those channels were examined by researchers. The three channels' audio narrative offerings are divided into three levels of difficulty: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. These stories feature crystal-clear audio quality with an average story length of under ten minutes.

According to Truby's assertion in his book The Anatomy of a Story (Truby, 2007), storytelling is effective because all stories contain storytelling elements like plot, characters,

themes, points of view, dialogue, and imagery. This conclusion can be drawn from an analysis of the English audio storytelling content on these channels.

To assist readers in learning new vocabulary and to increase their understanding of the content of the stories, each one contains an explanation of unfamiliar terminology. Some stories also include descriptions of the cultures they depict, which helps the audience comprehend the diverse cultures they encounter. According to Truby (2007), excellent stories can change the audience by assisting them in making sense of their surroundings. Furthermore, the grammar utilized adapts to the degree of difficulty of the audio storytelling content. Particularly in situations involving language learning, audio storytelling can be a powerful tool for improving listening comprehension among people.

Active listening is the process of paying close attention to the story's content, recognizing new language and grammatical structures, and understanding the story's overall message while listening to audio stories. According to Shahrokhi and Rahimi (2018), storytelling is a successful strategy for improving listening skills.

The addition of other storytelling components, such as storyline, character, setting, and theme, can also make the material more intriguing and engaging, which will help the listener pay attention and concentrate. Additionally, users may be able to select content that suits their skill level and interests thanks to the diversity of story genres and difficulty levels available on platforms like Spotify.

Users' listening abilities, linguistic competency, and capacity for understanding and interpreting spoken language can all be improved by consistently listening to audio storytelling content. As a result, audio storytelling can be a practical and pleasant method for improving individual listening comprehension.

4. CONCLUSION

The evaluation of these three channels shows how effective audio storytelling can be in enhancing English listening comprehension. Each channel has distinctive characteristics that cater to language learners at various levels. While Practicing English Channel concentrates on intermediate level content, Easy Stories in English and Lovely English Stories provide a wide range of content for beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels.

Each channel offers frequent updates with new content, making them an important tool for language learners. As the stories cover a variety of genres and issues, these channels also offer cultural insights in addition to language practice. In general, these channels can be a great resource for students wishing to increase their listening comprehension of English.

It could be difficult to fully cover all the storytelling tools on Spotify. Variable learner groups, such as beginning, intermediate, or advanced speakers, can have very variable listening comprehension abilities. It would be easier to adapt the study to their particular needs if the target audience could be identified. Depending on the learners' cultural background, native language, and experience with the English language, the effectiveness of Spotify resources for improving listening comprehension abilities may change. Even though Spotify is a well-known audio streaming service, there may be other places to find English narrative materials. This research may neglect potentially beneficial materials on other platforms or media due to its exclusivity to Spotify. Different research methodologies, such as quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method approaches, have unique strengths and weaknesses and can impact the depth of the future studies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all of the authors and collaborators who have contributed to the availability of English narrative resources on Spotify. Through compelling narratives and captivating storytelling, their efforts have given people a platform to improve their listening comprehension abilities. We want to thank these skilled storytellers for their contribution to advancing reading and language learning. There is little doubt that their contributions have improved the learning opportunities for English language learners everywhere.

Please be aware that the accessibility of particular resources may change over time; therefore, to find the most recent and pertinent resources, we advise searching for terms like "English storytelling," "English audiobooks," or related terms in Spotify's content collection

REFERENCES

Abel, J. (2015). Out on the Wire: The Storytelling Secrets of the New Masters of Radio.Broadway Books.

Acat, M. B., Demiral, H., & Kaya, M. F. (2016). Measuring Listening Comprehension Skill of 5th grade school with the help of web based system. International Journal of Instruction.

ISSN: 2407-0742

- Ahmadi, S. M. (2016). The important of listening comprehension in Language learning. International Journal of English education(1), 7-10. https://doi.org/http://ijreeonline.com/article-1-22-en.html
- Chambers, E., & Gregory, M. (2006). *Teaching and learning English Literature*. London: Sage Ltd.
- Ainiah, K. (2021). Digital Literacy Competence Among English Education Department Student.
- Andriani, H., Kusumaningrum, D., & Nurjanah, S. (2018). Exploring the use of Spotify for language learning. TEFLIN Journal, 213-227.
- Apriliani, I. D. (2022). Students' Perception towards the Utilization of Podcasts in Gaining Listening Comprehension (A Case Study at the First-Year of English Education Department FITK UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta in Academic Year 2021/2022) (Bachelor's thesis, Jakarta: FITK UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta).
- Ariza, E. N., & Morales, M. F. (2007). Criteria for evaluating listening ability. Profile Issues in Teachers Professional Development, 125-138.
- Bal, M. (2009). Narratology: Introduction to the theory of narrative. In M. Bal. University of Toronto Press.
- Bruner, J. (1990). Acts of Meaning. Harvard University Press.
- Chandra, H., Shukla, R., Tripathi, S., & Jain, S. (2019). A study on the impact of music streaming applications on youth in India. International Journal of Applied Engineering Research, 4595-4598.
- Creswell, J., & Creswell, J. (2018). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches (5th ed.). SAGE.
- Fisher, W. (1987). Human communication as narration: toward a philosophy of reason, value, and action. University of South Carolina Press.
- Green, M. C., & Brock, T. C. (2002). In the mind's eye: Transportation-imagery model of narrative persuation. In Narrative Impact: Social and Cognitive Foundations (pp. 315-342).
- Haven, K., & Morgan, R. D. (2007). Story Proof: The Science Behind the Startling Power of Story. Libraries Unlimited.
- Ikrima, A. R. S. (2023). The Effect of Podcast Audio-Assisted Listening to Improve Listening Comprehension (A Quasi-experimental Research at Third Semester

Students of English Education Department UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta) (Bachelor's thesis, Jakarta: FITK UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta).

- Lin, H. c. (2003). The effects of story mapping and story telling on the reading comprehension and learning motivation of seventh-grade students. National Taiwan Normal University.
- Lin, Y. (2016). Enhancing Listening ability through storytelling. Journal of Educational and Social Research, 57-64.
- Liu, C. Y. (2023). Podcasts as a resource for learning academic English: A lexical perspective. English for Specific Purposes, 71, 19-33.
- Oatley, K. (1999). Why fiction may be twice as true as fact: fiction as cognitive and emotional simulation. Review of General pschology, 101-117.
- Rost, M. (2011). Teaching and Researching Listening. Routledge. Saricoban, A. (2012). The teaching listening. TESL journal.
- Shahrokhi, M., & Rahimi, M. (2018). The Effect of Storytelling on Irian EFL Learners' listening ability. Journal of Language Teaching and Research, 9.
- Sičová, S. (2023). Using podcasts to develop students' listening comprehension skills (Doctoral dissertation, Masaryk University, Faculty of Education).
- Sihombing, I. A., & Simanjuntak, D. C. (2023). The Use of Digital Audio in enhancing EFL Learners' Listening Proficiency. JETAL: Journal of English Teaching & Applied Linguistic, 4(2), 64-74.
- Smaldino, S. E., Lowther, D. L., & Russell, J. D. (2011). Instructional technology and media for learning.
- Sujiati, R., Sumardi, S., & Zainuddin, M. (2016). The effect of listening to audio stories on listening comprehension achievement of EFL learners. Journal of Language Teaching and Research.
- Susialana, E., & Riyana, C. (2001). Media Pembelajaran. Grasindo, Jakarta.
- Truby, J. (2007). The Anatomy of Story: 22 steps to becoming a master storyteller. Faber and Feber.
- Wolvin, A. D. (2018). Listening: Processes, Functions and Competency. Wiley- Blackwell.
- Yao, S. y. (2003). An experimental study of the effects of storytelling in enhancing communicative competence among young EFL learners. National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan

BIOGRAPHIES OF AUTHORS

Hidayah Nor is English Education Department lecturer at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. She is interested in English Language Teaching and Teacher Professional Development. She has made English modules for her main areas of interest include Listening, Writing, Instructional Design, Business English and presented papers at national and international conferences on ELT.

Abdul Hair is an English Education Department alumni at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin and he is interested in listening skills including the resources and application. He has participated himself in several different opportunities including making international papers and joining international events as well as international conferences. His email: Asuskhair@gmail.com