



## Students' Perception Towards the Use Of "Cake Application" As A Medium to Increase Vocabulary Knowledge

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### Abstract

Vocabulary knowledge is considered an important tool in language learning. One piece of technology that may be used to learn foreign languages is the online learning application. In this day and age of digitalization, students may access resources through the internet. Due to this, this study focuses on using Cake as a tool to increase students' understanding of math concepts in middle school. The subjects of this study are 25 students who are currently learning English. The data is then analyzed using a descriptive analysis. Data collection is done using questionnaires and surveys. Students are given questionnaires and surveys related to alternative technologies for math education, such as the online Cake application. The study's findings indicate that the online Cake application can improve students' knowledge of vocabulary in the context of vocabulary practice. It is stated that the Cake web application might serve as one alternative to address the issue of word comprehension.

**Keywords:** Application, Vocabulary knowledge, Cake

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## INTRODUCTION

Languages all have components. There are linguistic components that English language learners need to grasp when learning the language. This covers vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and pronunciation. Having a large vocabulary is necessary for effective speaking. It makes sense that peers and coworkers pay greater attention to those who have a large vocabulary in English. This is due to the fact that using a large vocabulary when speaking demonstrates our seriousness. Furthermore, vocabulary is crucial to learning a language. Learning vocabulary is a crucial part of learning to read, write, talk, and listen. People cannot properly communicate or convey their thoughts in writing or vocally without a sufficient vocabulary.

The more vocabulary a person has, the more able they are to converse, write, read, and understand others as they understand themselves. O'Connor (2009) states that "You can communicate almost everything with words, but you can communicate almost everything with gestures." As it is, even if someone has good language skills, it won't help them if they don't understand the importance of many vocabulary. In addition, Polio (2002) states that vocabulary is one of the most important things to learn while learning an unfamiliar language since it is unlikely to be learned without similar vocabulary. These statements highlight how important it is to teach vocabulary as an alien language. vocabulary is regarded as one of the most important components of language. As stated by Carter and McCarthy (2014), a conversation is a result of language and communication skills. According to them, learning a language without context will be difficult and will not allow one to communicate effectively with others in appropriate situations. In addition, finding the best method to increase and improve customer satisfaction is crucial.

The EFL students use the Vocabulary Learning Strategy (VLS) to help them understand foreign words that they are unfamiliar with. Because of this, dictionary is the most common type of learning material. It comes in book or electronic form, and EFL students use VLS to learn new material. A successful and efficient use of this strategy to teach students new vocabulary can improve their self-discipline. Students get a sense of relief when they use a lamp. According to Şevik (2014), a dictionary is a person who may be recommended for learning both English and Mandarin since it helps learners understand words that they are not familiar with.

Vocabulary is considered the most important knowledge. A vocabulary is a list or collection of words. Vocabulary is one of the foundations of English and

the heart of English language teaching. Without a rich vocabulary, students will not be able to understand others or express their thoughts. For this reason, students need to master English vocabulary. Vocabulary is the number of words someone knew. The more words you know, the better your ability to understand what you hear and read, and the better your ability to say and write. Conversely, if you have a low vocabulary, it will be difficult for you to say what you want to say, write what you want to write, and understand what you want to read. Vocabulary is said to work well when students are able to recognize meaning and understand formality, grammar, collocations and word information.

Understanding vocabulary is considered an important tool in language learning. Schmitt (2000) emphasized the importance of vocabulary translation, stating that "linguistic literacy is the foundation of both communicative competence and bilingual translation." Additionally, there is a strong correlation between the ability to communicate effectively and vocabulary understanding. As stated by Nation (2001), linguistic knowledge facilitates language use, and conversely, language use hinders the development of linguistic knowledge.

Vocabulary is inextricable from the complexity of technology. Due to the advancement of entertaining technology and student behavior that values unusual things, Instagram provides engaging alternatives that encourage students to learn vocabulary. Additionally, it is equipped with graphics so that students can learn and understand more about English language. Vocabulary is a fundamental language that each person must learn before mastering English. A few of them have defined vocabulary. Hornby (2006), vocabulary enumerates every word that is understood or used by an individual, as well as every word in the current language. According to Richards (2002), *kosakata* a fundamental component of language proficiency and most of them illustrate students' abilities to communicate, learn, read, and write. According to Mansur (2019) vocabulary is an important factor language learning to help students master the four reading skills of English, writing, speaking and vocabulary. Yeung (1999) mentioned this vocabulary, Performance may improve or degrade depending on the presented format. Reported by Meliana, Umaema, and Hidayat (2018) for assignments and readings.

Vocabulary is a family of words that includes definitions and definitions and then connected with perfect sentences. It is important as a support when learning a foreign language which is the basis of language learning. Vocabulary is therefore the basis for learning to read. Write and speak in a foreign language. Vocabulary is a basic requirement for learning English. Without vocabulary, students cannot understand and express themselves in English (Trifonov, 2011).

Vocabulary is important in learning a language. You need vocabulary to understand words and sentences when learning a new language. Learning to write, read and speak in English requires knowledge of vocabulary in addition to learning English. Students need to learn vocabulary to improve their English skills. A good vocabulary will help you feel more confident in communicating in English. Because vocabulary is the meaning and purpose of language skills that are learned to improve listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Each student has a different vocabulary.

In addition, students can set vocabulary learning techniques according to their ability to acquire more new words in language learning (Afifah, 2021). By increasing their vocabulary, students will find it easier to communicate in English and learn new words they didn't know. Poor vocabulary knowledge can make it difficult for students to learn English. Vocabulary is basically the foundation or basis of language learning, so students who find it difficult to express themselves in English and have difficulty communicating (Afifah, 2021). If students do not master the basics of language learning, it will be difficult to learn the next language level. In summary, with a solid foundation in language learning, mastering vocabulary can help students learn languages, especially English. By learning English vocabulary, students will be able to easily express their brilliant ideas in English.

Therefore, as explained by several experts, vocabulary is a very important part that you must master if you want to learn English. Vocabulary has the ability to facilitate the learning of current English language proficiency, particularly in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing (Ayu dan Zuraida, 2020). According to Munadi (2008), a teacher is not the only one who can teach. Because of this, teachers must be able to find and create more learning resources so that the learning environment becomes indispensable. Learning resources that are utilized by teachers are learning resources that are taught and/or used as a means of retaining or connecting educational information that is conveyed by teachers or students, which is commonly referred to as learning media. Because of this, educational media may be seen as anything that can transform and solidify knowledge from any source in a way that is both practical and efficient, resulting in a crucial learning environment where learners can carry out the process of learning in an efficient and effective manner. In light of this, students will be more enthusiastic after participating in the lesson.

When the teacher teaches, the students get bored because the learning is monotonous. Teachers need to find other methods to make learning more attractive and prevent students from getting bored while learning English. One

way to get students involved and interested in learning English is to use technology. Technology has become a part of our daily life. We often use technology in our operations. How to get information about everything through technology. Technology has a good impact on student learning (Notoatmodjo, 2014). Because of this, educational media may be seen as anything that can transform and solidify knowledge from any source in a way that is both practical and efficient, resulting in a crucial learning environment where learners can carry out the process of learning in an efficient and effective manner. In light of this, students will be more enthusiastic after participating in the lesson.

We understand that using this application will increase your proficiency in speaking English, including conversational English. This is because the application offers a variety of useful features that you may use to improve your proficiency in speaking English. According to Sinha (2019), the Cake application features a record feature that encourages users to return, as well as a fun vocabulary learning feature. In addition to that, this app provides videos to help you learn a few new words, phrases, or expressions in English every day to help you use them in day-to-day interactions. By using Cake application, it is hoped that students will be more interested in learning English and improving their vocabulary ability. Compared to just listening to the teacher explanation and feel bored, Cake application will help students learn English easily. Cake application is an online medium on smartphone for learning English.

Using Cake as an application to improve English language skills such as reading, writing, speaking, and interacting with others is quite simple. Utilizing the Cake application might provide a suitable environment to increase one's ability to communicate (Syalwa, 2020). Due of this, the Cake app might make students more enthusiastic and driven to improve their English language proficiency. Good grammar is necessary to increase proficiency in speaking since it is a prerequisite for learning language. It is very important to understand grammar accurately in order to understand spoken language during communication, as the foundation of language learning is having good grammar.

Cake application is an online medium on smartphone for learning English. Cake application is very easy to use to improve English skills such as reading, speaking, writing and vocabulary. Using a Cake application can have a good impact for improving speaking skill (Syalwa, 2020). Therefore, Cake application can make students leaning more fun and motivated to improve their English skills. To improve a good language skills, good vocabulary is needed because that is the key to learning a language. It is very important to know correct

vocabulary in order to understand the language when communicating, because the basic of learning a language is to have good vocabulary skills.

Darsalina (2010) conducted the initial study on the use of kue applications in kosakata instruction in grades 2 and 8 of SMPN 8 Banda Aceh. The purpose of this quantitative study is to understand student handwriting before and after making a cake. As a result, student proficiency in Arabic increased significantly. This can be seen in the student pretest results with a significance level of  $(a) = 0.05$ , meaning that the sample mean is greater than Table  $(20, 0,05) = 2,086$ . The study's findings indicate and confirm that improving cake applications significantly can enhance vocabulary learning. Therefore, the author makes the results of the study as a reference to make a proposal entitled "The Effect of Baking Application Use on Vocabulary Mastery of Grade 2 Students of HKBP Sidorame Middle School Medan".

The Cake application was utilized in Khoiriyah's (2010) second research to increase the vocabulary of MT NU Ungaran students. According to the findings, the experimental class's vocabulary score—which included pupils who were taught using the Cake application—was 79.57. The control class's vocabulary score, which was obtained without the use of Cake in the classroom, was 74.57. The outcomes demonstrate how well the Cake program works to increase kids' vocabulary, make meaning guesses more quickly, and help them retain words for longer. The study's findings demonstrate the effectiveness of the Cake app in aiding students, particularly those at the beginning and vocabulary-deficient levels, in picking up new words more quickly, easily, and with greater retention. The author uses the research results as a reference to make a proposal "The impact of using Cake on the vocabulary acquisition ability of second grade students at HKBP Sidorame Secondary School Medan".

"Effectiveness of Using Cake Applications on Vocabulary Mastery for Class VII MTsS PSM Rejotangan Students" is the title of the third study conducted by Nurina Almas Laila Fatin (2020) at the State Islamic Institute (IAIN) Tulungagung. This study set out to determine the extent to which the Cake application affected the seventh grade students at MTsS PSM Rejotangan Tulungagung. The outcomes demonstrated that there was an impact of the Cake application on vocabulary mastery. The pre-test had an average value of 46.59, while the post-test had an average value of 59.14 following therapy. In summary, the use of the Cake application has improved pupils' vocabulary mastery. Therefore, the writer use the research finding as reference in conducting a proposal entitled "The Effect of Using Cake Application on Students' Vocabulary Mastery at Second Grade of Junior High School HKBP Sidorame Medan."

Cake app is an English learning app that can be downloaded on PlayStore for Android users and AppleStore for iOS users. With this app, you can learn English using videos published in the app. Cake applications are rarely used for learning English in Indonesia, but there are many English learning applications that are widely used for learning English, such as Duolingo, My Dictionary, and U Dictionary. The application has multiple learning levels, starting at levels 1-2 for beginners and levels 3-4 for intermediate and advanced users. This application introduces new vocabulary, idioms and expressions every day to improve your English. Cake Application is not only a vocabulary learning tool, but also a speaking and listening practice to improve your English skills.

Cake app is the latest popular Android mobile app in Korea. It is an app that helps people improve their English. This app gives you the confidence and skills to speak powerfully on stage, in front of an audience, or in everyday life. It works for people who listen to the recordings, it can be a lot of fun. This is the best app for learning to speak English, it uses videos to provide word examples that are very useful for everyday speaking. Cake app has several features like: (1) Channel. It offers many English conversations, talking points and English expressions curated from Youtube. (2) Record the call. Watching the video in the channel, we have to try to say an important word. Each video has an important word. While studying the material, check the speaking ability of this word. (3) Check pronunciation with AI speech recognition. Record your voice and get instant feedback. Have your say. These features provide speech conventions that simulate a conversation with a native speaker.

In the speech functions, students can chat with a native speaker. And students can also change roles in the conversation. Speaking is a two-step process, the first of which is listening to native speakers. The second step is practice, that is, speaking. Speak to native speakers. Take turns speaking one sentence at a time and take feedback after recording. Daily goals. It collects the duration of learning English with Cake. Students can collect as many stars as they want to be rewarded for a successful task, such as completing the learning objectives of the app. The cake application also has quizzes. Students have to fill in the missing word in the sentence. A sentence is a sentence that has been previously studied. In addition to filling in the missing words, the quiz is also used to form the words mentioned in the application. In the cookie application, students can choose the goal achieved and know the progress of learning how to use the application, students can know the progress of learning based on the received stars and the completed levels. The Cake English application, which includes vocabulary, vocabulary and picture matching games, picture story

reading and filler tests, can be applied to the pre-speaking, speaking and speaking stages of basic English learning. Therefore, learning vocabulary is appropriate for the prepositional stage. Vocabulary-picture matching games can be applied at the introductory stage. Picture stories can be read in the speech and in the after reading. Blank fill tests are appropriate for the post-reading.

The Cake application can be downloaded from the Play Store. It works much like YouTube, where videos are shown and spoken by native speakers (Siregar & Ed, 2020). To access the application, students must first have an account to enable learning English with the cake application. Students can log in with their Facebook or Google account. Students can also use guest mode. No registration is required. However, only free episodes are available in guest mode. However, the cake application has a trial for new users, so students don't have to pay as long as they use the two-week trial (Fitria et al., 2021). Fitria et al., (2021) mentioned to start learning the application allows students to select the videos provided and the sentences that are incompletely filled. Students can choose the learning level according to their ability. Every time students start a video, will get points when they finish learning with the video. If students don't know what the conversation is about, students can repeat the video. Don't worry if they don't understand the dialogue in the video. Full subtitles are provided for the video, but sentences are also missing and should be added depending on the dialogue in the video (Fitria et al., 2021).

Here so many advantages to using the Cake application as a medium for learning English (Matanari, 2019): Easy to use and a new way to learn English. Since it is a smartphone-based application, students can use it anytime, anywhere. It has a variety of content and is free once students use the application. Learning English is fun and never boring. Using the Cake application as a medium for learning English has some drawbacks. Monthly fee must be paid after the trial period ends enjoy the content. Sometimes videos can't be opened because of students. Students must subscribe. Requires a suitable device and stable connection to use Comfortable application.

According to the justification given above, study on the Cake application as a tool for junior high school children to learn English and increase their vocabulary is something that interests them. Thus, "Students' Perception Towards the Use of Cake Application as A Medium to Increase Vocabulary Knowledge in Junior High Students" is the title of this study. The goal of this study is to show how novices and amateurs may use the Cake application to learn English, specifically for junior high school students. In this scenario, learning English vocabulary will be more successful.



## **METHOD**

Descriptive analysis is the method used in this study's qualitative approach to data analysis. Descriptive refers to the existence of words, images, transcriptions, audio recordings, video recordings, words, and other elements that characterize qualitative research data.

### **Subject of the Research**

Randomly selected students participated in this mini-survey from Junior High School 2 Ngadiluwih. Due to limited time, the researcher focused only on 25 participants. Students of Junior High School 2 Ngadiluwih were chosen by the researchers because they learn the English language for their one of the material in class.

### **Instruments**

This study focuses on the use of baking apps as a tool to improve students' vocabulary in math classes. The tools used in this study were questionnaires and interviews with researchers. According to Johnson and Christensen (2012), a questionnaire is a self-reporting data collection tool used as a by-product of research and evaluated by each researcher. The researcher collected data regarding participants' demographics, such as age, gender, attitudes, beliefs, values, perceptions, personality, and behavioral intentions through surveys and interviews.

Ten dichotomous and Likert-scale questions about the employment of baking apps as a means of raising student happiness in secondary schools were included in this part by the researcher. Every question on this survey has a score. In the Likert scale, there were four categories: strongly agree, agree, less agree, and disagree. The dichotomous questions were "yes" or "no". The researchers performed in-depth interviews in addition to the survey to learn about the opinions and blind spots of the participants with reference to online voting apps. To further comprehend the findings, a word-for-word transcription of the interview data is provided. To find out students' perceptions towards using baking apps as a means to improve vocabulary knowledge of middle school students, questionnaires and interviews were conducted at junior high student of 2 Ngadiluwih.

### **Data Analysis**

To examine the data collected from the questionnaire, average scores and percentages were found. Giving schoolchildren access to data in tabular form was the first step. These statistics are then contrasted. The interpretation of the percentages and average scores was based on the questionnaire's evaluation criteria. Additionally, transcript analysis was used to examine the interview data.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section serves the answers of question(s) stated in the introduction section. This section contains the results of research and analysis done with an emphasis on the answer to the problems. The findings obtained from the research have to be supported by sufficient data (text, tables, and/or figures) that supports further discussion.

This section presents the research results and discussion to answer the research questions. After conducting the research, the researcher found information. The data includes the survey results. Initially, the students in the class wrote 20 questions and the closed questions were taken from the questionnaire. After conducting the survey, the researcher obtained the following dichotomous question results:

**Table 1. Student's Opinions toward Cake Application Usage**

Questions	"Yes" (%)	"No" (%)
<i>Can you live without the internet?</i>	80%	20%
<i>Did you ever use a language learning application?</i>	96%	4%
<i>Do you like a language learning application?</i>	100%	0%
<i>Do you have a language learning application on your phone?</i>	88%	12%
<i>Do you know what the online Cake is?</i>	80%	20%
<i>Did you ever use an online Cake application?</i>	84%	16%
<i>Do you often use the online Cake application?</i>	56%	44%
<i>Are you familiar with the Cake application?</i>	88%	12%
<i>Do you like the online Cake application?</i>	92%	8%
<i>Does the online Cake application that you used help you in learning the English language?</i>	92%	8%
<b>Mean</b>	85,6%	14,4%

The table above shows since the first question that 20% of students cannot live without the Internet, which means that almost all students cannot live without the Internet at the 80% level. Shahroom and Hussin's (2018) statement confirms that to face the Industrial Revolution 4.0, students must rely on technological innovation. Therefore, to support their learning process, students often use the Internet as a learning tool to access any website or application through laptops or cell phones. Furthermore, in the second question, 96% of students answered that they had used online language learning applications. Metruk (2017) explains that the use of online foreign language learning applications has become an integral and important tool for foreign language learners. Therefore, in today's digital era, learning a foreign language online has become easy and affordable for students. For the next question like the previous question, 100% of students answered that they like online language learning apps, meaning that all students like this English learning support tool. In

addition, 88% of students have online language learning apps on their phones, which means only 3 participants or students do not have online language learning apps on their devices, which shows that they need online language learning apps to explore new things.

Also, 80% of students know about online cake app which is online cake app which means most students know this app. Subsequently, 84% of students have ever used this program. To improve vocabulary, students must have this application, from this website, it can be a useful tool for EFL learners. "A web language application can provide immediate access to the key of symbols used in the phonological transcription corresponding to a particular entry and also model the pronunciation of any particular word at the touch of a button." Singleton, (2016). From Question number 7, it can be seen that 56% of students often use this online cake application. It shows that 44% of students do not use this program often because sometimes students use other programs as an alternative.

Nonetheless, 88% of pupils knew about the Cake app, which is available online. Students are familiar with this application because, in the second grade of elementary school, respondents frequently used it, also known as the Cake application, to learn the meaning of words and how to pronounce them correctly. This helped respondents identify the application. Furthermore, the Cake online language learning tool was enjoyed by 92% of pupils. This indicates that the majority of respondents believe that the Cake online tool supports students' learning, particularly when they wish to understand the meaning and pronunciation of words. Regarding the last point, most students answered that the online language app helps them learn English. 92% of students answered "yes" to these questions.

Numerous researches have been done on internet applications. According to Alfallaj (2013), students can improve both their pronunciation and vocabulary by using online language applications. Ultimately, the average score for this survey is 85.6, indicating that nearly all students had good feedback on using the Cake online tool.

To confirm the learning outcomes, students were asked several questions related to their experience using online baking apps. The interviews revealed that most students found online language learning apps, including Cake, useful. This was evident through the students' answers during the interviews.

*Student 1:*

*"Yes, since I never leave my phone, I use my phone to do my homework. I use the online cake app for pronunciation while studying. I also use this program a lot to learn how to pronounce and pronounce words correctly. "*

*Student 2:*

*"Yes, I use the Cake web app when I want to check the pronunciation of words in speaking classes, because I often forget to pronounce words that I don't think I know during presentations. So this web app helps me complete my homework."*

After conducting the research, the researcher obtained the results of the Likert scale/statement as follows:

**Table 2. Student's Responses using Online Cambridge Dictionary toward Vocabulary Enrichment**

No	Statements	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)
1	<i>I can enrich my vocabulary by using the Online Cake application.</i>	28%	68%	4%	0%
2	<i>I can memorize new words easily after studying using the Online Cake application.</i>	16%	76%	8%	0%
3	<i>I get a lot of new vocabulary after studying using the online Cake application.</i>	16%	76%	8%	0%
4	<i>I can understand the function of words in the online Cake application.</i>	20%	72%	4%	4%
5	<i>Online Cake application helps me to understand the variation of words</i>	40%	56%	4%	0%

As can be seen from the above chart, 48% of students agree and 28% strongly agree that using online baking applications may help students expand their vocabulary. This means that over 60% of students feel this way because they are able to translate new words. Dale and O'Rourke (1971) defined mastery of language as the ability to know, comprehend, and use it. This indicates that kids are proficient in using words in addition to being able to recall them and comprehend their meaning. Since expanding one's vocabulary is the first stage in learning a new language, it is crucial for language learners.

The result of this research is the Cake app which allows students to enrich their vocabulary. Here, 76% of students strongly agree and 16% of students strongly agree with the following statement that by using the online cake making program, more than 60% of students agree that the online cake making program helps students remember words. New words are easier. In addition, students not only easily remember words but also absorb a lot of new vocabulary after learning through the online baking application, with more than 76% of students agreeing with the statement. Then, 72% of students agreed and 20% of students

strongly agreed that they could understand the function of words by themselves through online baking apps. The final statement shows that 56% of students agree and 40% strongly agree that the Cake app helps students understand vocabulary.

Based on the above findings and discussion, the researchers conclude that an online cake application can increase students' vocabulary knowledge. The e-learning application makes the learning of printed media more interesting, behind the good effects experienced by the students after using the e-learning application, they realized that everything is well controlled. This means that using the web application is useful and efficient. However, like good students, they need to know how to use technology wisely.

The results of this study are in line with the results of previous studies, namely from Kuo (2010) which stated that the dictation method was able to improve students' vocabulary mastery. The Cake application also uses the drill learning method in other words Cake is a drill-based application system that works online. The two treatments are the same, namely the drill system that is able to improve students' vocabulary mastery.

Research by Wijaya, et al (2012) states that online video drills can increase students' vocabulary effectively. This is because in conventional drill learning students tend to feel bored, while by using online videos, students feel more comfortable and it is easier to imitate and recognize the vocabulary to be learned.

In addition, the use of cake as a multimedia that combines internet media with technical drills is in line with the results of research by Riyanto (2018) which states that media makes students more interested in drills and does not get bored easily when compared to conventional drills. Thus Cake, which is an online video drill-based application, can effectively improve students' vocabulary mastery. The results show that the Cake app can help students acquire new vocabulary and increase learning motivation. Therefore, Cake app is a new suggestion for teachers to approach students' vocabulary needs.

Based on the explanation above, we can conclude that the Cake app is used effectively in improving students' vocabulary acquisition results. The results of this study show that the use of Cake application is effective in improving students' vocabulary knowledge at the junior high school of 2 Ngadiluwih.

## CONCLUSION

This section presents the results of the study. In short, online baking apps have helped students learn how to pronounce words well and enrich their vocabulary. Cake application offers simplicity and efficiency that any language learner can easily use. Using the web cake application makes it easy for students to learn English, especially vocabulary, and students appreciate its simplicity and efficiency.

Based on the data that has found, it can conclude that most of the students are strongly agree that Cake application give good impact to the students. The data presents that give lot their possitive perceptions to Cake Application. Researcher found several finding after doing a research. The finding are cake app is a helpful application, cake app is a useful application, cake app has interesting feature, cake app is easy to use, and cake app is a free application. These finding are collected into possitive perceptions. Also, researcher find the negative perception in this research. It found that students felt if cake application has challenging to them. The students share they felt hard in using microphone and having limit streaks or heart in using cake application.

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