Abstract: There has been a deeper appreciation on using technology in English classroom. The technology is used to create an interactive learning process. In this article, the author will discuss the implementation of Prezi as a new presentation tool which works well in oral English for Academic Speaking students. Prezi is an interactive and visually pleasing tool that uses zooming and spatial relationships to present information. Similar to a traditional PowerPoint, Prezi has the ability to incorporate various types of media (Manning, et al. 2011: 26). Prezi is a web-based tool that allows to create a powerful presentation. Prezi can be used as a way to develop virtual graphic organizers or word charts. Prezi is also as a way to create organizers or words charts is its interactive and expressive nature. It allows presenter the option of creating more dimensions to explore a topic and to incorporate their thoughts and ideas into a powerful presentation. The knowledge conveyed to the listeners increases when there is audience participation and the presenter’s style is dynamic and engaging (Bernhardt, 2006: 317). Prezi allows the presenter more flexibility and creates a way to show relationships among different items in presentation.

Keywords: Prezi, Presentation, Academic Speaking

Introduction

Academic speaking is one of the subjects for university students. It focuses on the way of presentation. The aim of this article is to determine which presentation tool works best to deliver a clear message to audience. The academic students usually use Power Point. It is the standard slide-based presentation tool. Later, technology provides the newer presentation software called Prezi. Prezi is more interesting as it is completed by an interactive and visually pleasing tool that uses zooming and spatial relationships to present information. It will help the academic students success in presenting a clear message in oral English.

Discussion

Academic Speaking in Oral English

Academic speaking in university focuses on presentation program which closely related to public speaking. According to LeBeau (2007: 04), public speaking is about sharing information. Well before written communication was standardized it was common for information to be conveyed orally. Even after clear duplication of written text was an option, it was common for important information to be presented to the public. Whether written communication has developed, oral communication still as the important part of communication. There are four basic principles for effective public speaking: effective speakers exhibit a strong sense of confidence and purpose, public speaking is interactive, messages are well organized rhetorically, and audiences respond best to well prepared, extemporaneous presentations (Verderber in LeBeau, 2007: 04). The university is preparing students for those expectations. It provides opportunities for students to practice speaking in various academic courses. In public speaking class students will normally cover informative and persuasive speaking elements and they will be required to design a presentation and present it to his or her classmates.

Presentation in Academic Speaking

A presentation is the process of presenting a topic to an audience. It is typically a demonstration, lecture, or speech meant to inform, persuade, or build good will. Puschel (2008: 04) states a good presentation has some characteristics: (1) good content, (2) well-presented, (3) well-designed slides. Presentations are a unique chance to connect your work with your person. If you do a good job, people may remember you. Unfortunately, most presentations fall far short of this goal and are rather a waste of time for most of the audience. Some common mistakes which occur in presentation are (1) too many slides, (2) slides to packed, (3) thinking: if it is easy to understand, people will think its trivial. Most people fear to face up presentation. Based on research the first fear is conducting presentation as a part of public speaking. Le Beau (2007: 02) states public speaking ranked higher than heights, snakes, and even death. This condition should be solved by doing a good preparation of presentation. Puschel (2008: 04) states a good presentation has some characteristics: (1) good
content, (2) well-presented, (3) well-designed slides. Based on the third point of good presentation, the students
dhoul prepare well-design slides.

**Using Prezi as Presentation Tool**

Nowadays, technology cannot be separated with education. Technology becomes a part of media as
bridge in transferring information between teacher as a source and the students as the receivers. The technologies
that implemented in the classroom can help students not only to stay engaged, but also to feel a personal
connection to and genuine interest in the content they are learning. Recently, technology introduces the newer
presentation software called Prezi. Prezi is an interactive and visually pleasing tool that uses zooming and spatial
relationships to present information. Similar to a traditional PowerPoint, Prezi has the ability to incorporate
various types of media (Manning, et al., 2011: 26). It is almost similar to Power Point slides. Prezi has the ability
to incorporate various types of media. However, Prezi’s interactive interface allows for a more streamlined
approach to presenting information. Prezi can be developed with the combination of images, sounds, and also
video. The benefit in using Prezi as a way to create organizers or words charts is its interactive and expressive
nature. It allows students the option of creating more dimensions to explore a topic and to incorporate their
thoughts and ideas into a focused venue. (Manning, et al., 2011: 27). Students as the presenters can choose their
own topic and explore it by adding visual effects which makes the presentation more interesting for the
audience.

Houska (2010: 02) states Prezi file includes my embedded videos and can be edited without an internet
connection. Prezi is creating through web and need an online process. Next, the students as presenters can
download Prezi from the internet and edit the materials inside without an internet connection.

Prezi is unique presentation tool. It is sometimes called as the ‘zooming’ presentation software. Prezi is
an online program you can use to create presentations that are considered more dynamic than PowerPoint
because of its Zooming User Interface (Barber, 2013: 01). It is ‘zooming’ presentation software. It can be zoomed
in or zoomed out. This ‘zooming’ presentation software is used to attract the audience’s interest and attention.
According to Bernhardt (2006: 317), the knowledge conveyed to the listeners increases when there is audience
participation and the presenter’s style is dynamic and engaging. Prezi provides a distinct presentation experience
that presents information in different ways. This allows the students as presenters more flexibility and creates a
way to show relationships among different items in the presentation. In doing so, the audience may get a better
idea of the big picture. It is emphasizing both the big picture as well as the connections among ideas. At the same
time the zooming feature in Prezi could potentially capture and hold an audience’s attention.

There are some advantages and disadvantages on using Prezi. The advantages are Prezi offers: (a) Free
web-based, assessable program that’s offered online and as a download for computer desktops; (b) Zoom, Prezi’s
unique differentiation is it’s zoom function; (c) The text inclusion is one of Prezi’s most elaborate features. Text
can be developed in a range of formats such as columns, bulleted, chunked paragraphs, and much more; (d)
Image insertions offer an array of options as well. Images can be embedded into text or used the background for
text; (e) Pathways are used to link the presentation in a sequence arrangement that induces visual magic.
Otherwise, Prezi also has disadvantages: (a) Limited design options, limited backgrounds to choose from and
each has pre-chosen fonts and colors that can’t be changed; (b) Cost, for an online connection to the internet; (c)
Dizziness, often times Prezi users can over use the zoom function which can ultimately take away from the
message of the presentation. Too much zooming and too much panning can ultimately make users feel sick.

**How to create Prezi?**

Barber (2013: 04) states the procedures on creating presentation slide by using Prezi. The procedures
are:

1. Plan your Prezi Map
2. Gather your resources
3. Create your presentation http://prezi.com/learn/getting-started/
4. Double click anywhere in window to write
5. Zoom in to add detail
6. Use Zebra to change location, resize and rotate
7. Add images and/or video
8. Add Frames to group related items
9. Add Path to create a storyline
10. Click Show to present

**The Implementation of Using Prezi in the Classroom**

This article focuses on oral English especially speaking skills. Prezi will help the students as the
presenter to make a good presentation which increases their speaking skills. According to Weir (1988: 73-79),
there are some types of speaking test: (1) the controlled interview, (2) information transfer (questions on a single picture), (3) information transfer (description of a picture sequence), (4) interaction task (information gab student-student), (5) role play, (6) the free interview, (7) verbal essay, (8) oral presentation. In addition, speaking has some indicators: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, and content. In short, the indicators of speaking can also be achieved by oral presentation. Oral presentation is more attractive if the students use Prezi as the slides. White (2012: 37) states on his research that the result of using Prezi in presentation covers two main points: (1) Flow of information, 89% thought the information make sense and flowed smoothly, vise versa 11% thought the information make sense, but did not flow smoothly; (2) Understanding of information, 78% understood the information and had no question, vice versa 22% understood most of the information and had question. It means Prezi is a good media to increase the students speaking skills in oral presentation.

The students’ activities of using Prezi in oral presentation:

a. Preparation
   1. Defining specific problem.
   2. Preparing and collecting the data and information to solve the problem.

b. Design
   1. Designing the material of presentation related the problem by using Prezi. The design covers structure of presentation and interest visual aids.

c. Delivery
   1. Practicing and delivering the material by using Prezi
   2. Summarizing the material

Conclusion
The use of Prezi in oral English especially for Academic speaking students is expected to create a good presentation. By implementing Prezi, students can use an interesting media to present message clearly. Prezi has better visual design which play an important role for an audience’s interest and attention span. Prezi in oral presentation will increase the students’ speaking skills.

Suggestion
The next aim of this article is to make Prezi more familiar. Most people will use Prezi in presentation. Even in a communication class, very few students had been introduced to it. Therefore, it is very easy to use Prezi as media of presenting message to the audience. The zooming capability of Prezi is the exciting new presentation software. Later, a researcher will interest to use this classroom ideas into classroom research.

References


