

ANALYSIS OF THE COLLEGE STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF AARONS.ENGLISH INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT IN SPEAKING

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Abstract: Speaking skills are crucial for language learners to develop their academic achievements. However, it becomes the most challenging aspect of language acquisition since students' mother tongue is not English. Using technology is a solution to answer difficulties in learning English during the global pandemic era. One of the technologies that can help in learning English is Instagram. Instagram is a medium to learn to teach English, one of which is @aarons.english. This study seeks to analyze students' perceptions of the use of Instagram. A descriptive qualitative method, this study aims to determine the results and perceptions of students about learning English through Instagram. Ten students were selected from six hundred and forty-nine thousand of followers on the @aarons.english account. The writer conducted observations and interviews to collect data. Observation is used to observe participants to obtain information data. Meanwhile, interviews were used to find out student answers about their perceptions of the @aarons.english Instagram account as a language learning medium. The results of this study also indicate that students have a good perception of using Instagram to learn languages and they prefer to use Instagram because the videos and photos posted on the @aarons.english Instagram account are easy to understand and fun. @aarons.english makes students feel easier and more comfortable to use English, especially in speaking. This indicates that the Instagram account @aarons.english facilitates students to add and improve their English.

Keywords: @aarons.english, Instagram, Students' Perception, Speaking

INTRODUCTION

The existence of English is significant in the current period of globalization since it is the language utilized for international communication. English is the first foreign language taught in official schools from elementary school to university level in Indonesia, despite not being a second language. Indonesians should therefore take the time to learn English.

Speaking activities are an inseparable part of daily life activities that cannot be underestimated (Clampitt 2016). Confident people often have to speak tens of thousands of words a day, but others such as auctioneers, politicians, negotiators, etc. can do more. Speaking is so serious and essential that people struggle to forget how to speak well and interestingly.



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Do it to master these skills. This includes elements and skills of language ability and maturity.

From elementary school to university, students in Indonesia are required to acquire English as one of the most significant courses to learn. As a result, in order to master technology, knowledge is required in order to put it to use in the face of the demands of a globalized world with fierce competition. In this instance, mastering technology and direct communication requires the use of English. English should be mastered both orally and in writing as a tool of communication.

Based on the writer's observation, teaching English in university focuses on vocabulary recognition, understanding texts and responding to conversations. Therefore, those who start teaching specific subjects are expected to have basic English skills that can be taught to students. Information and communication technology advancements have a big impact on people's lives in a lot of different ways. With the use of technology, today's society can easily gain knowledge or insight from the internet.

One application that supports the learning process is the Instagram on Aarons.english Instagram account. Aarons.english is an educational account with 649k followers on his Instagram account, aarons.english is an Instagram account dedicated to teaching English, specifically speaking skills. Teaching that is simple to understand and apply. Based on the description above, the aim of language learning, particularly speaking abilities, should be developed and learned by everyone because good and correct language skills are critical in communicating.

Based on information above, the writer tries to analyze that college students' perceptions on Aarons.English Instagram account in speaking skill. Aarons.English Instagram account was chosen by the writer because it teaches English very clearly through videos, and is easy to understand, interesting to watch, easy to practice, does not get bored easily, and is highly recommended for college students' who want to learn English easily via the smartphone through the internet, speacially Instagram. Consequently, the writer are motivated to carry out a study with the title "Analysis the College Students Perception on Aarons.English Instagram Account in Speaking".

THEORETICAL UNDERPINNING

A. Speaking

Speaking is a sort of oral communication in which two or more people share information, opinions, suggestions, and even the meaning of something. As stated by (Morrow 2020) Speaking, better known as "oral communication", is an activity involving two or more people, and the listener and speaker must respond to what they heard.

In line with (Al Hosni 2014), speaking is the active use of language to express meaning, and for young learners, the spoken language is the medium through which a new language is encountered, understood, practiced, and learnt. However, it is difficult to teach speaking in this critical time of COVID 19, where learning should take place at home or

online to prevent the spread of the corona virus. Therefore, the teacher faced some problems to teach speaking.

The component is used to finish the speaking skill. Speaking ability is influenced by five language components, and this is happening on (Brown 2014), there are:

a. Pronunciation

The way we pronounce a word depends on how and where the stress is placed, as well as how we employ pitch and intonation to convey our feelings and intentions.

b. Grammar

Both spoken and written language must adhere to grammar rules. To get a decent outcome, students must follow grammar rules. They can also find grammar rules in pronunciation, morphology, and syntax. When speaking, the grammar itself may not always matter to the speaker or the listener. However, the author does not currently address the grammar.

c. Vocabulary

One of the linguistic factors in which it is a number of words with the role of combining them to make up the language in speaking. Vocabulary is very essential but it is not the first thing to be considered if speaking takes place, is a very early stage. Vocabulary is a total number of words, which a make up a language.

d. Fluency

It shows that people are able to communicate well because it consists of the case and speed of the flowing speech. Someone who can communicate fluently but she may be able to use the language fluently.

e. Comprehension

In order for a topic to respond to speech as well as to begin it, the speaker and listener must have a strong knowledge of one another when communicating. However, the researcher will use the term "comprehensibility" in this study.

B. Instagram Application

In harmony with (Ting et al. 2015) Generally speaking, Instagram is a cutting-edge social networking site for sharing photos. Essentially, Instagram is a mobile-based program that enables users to snap photos or pictures, use the numerous alteration tools to modify the appearance of images, and share them quickly with friends on different social networking sites (Hochman and Schwartz 2012).

Instagram is more popular across varied civilizations and the younger age than other social networking sites (Abbott et al. 2013). Today's youth are reportedly spending more time on Instagram than Facebook (Salomon 2013). This is most likely a result of young mobile users' intense desire to capture images and share them right away with other people (Abbott et al. 2013).

There are other functions in Instagram that users may utilize, but these are the ones that are most often used by users:

- a. Instagram Profile Interface
A user's biography, circular profile photo, number of posts, and followers/followed individuals are all displayed together with information about their profiles. Users can follow other users and receive updates on their posts from the following material by using the "+ Follow" option.
- b. Profile Content
Viewers or followers can scroll down the profile using this section. Viewers could view all of the profile pictures at once. Viewers have the opportunity to tap on any image for a closer look. The selected photo is shown in a clearer, larger format so that viewers or followers may like it, comment on it, or read comments that have already been submitted. This section also shows how many people "liked" the picture, its caption, and any comments that were added after the picture's caption.
- c. Navigation Tool
The Instagram interface has five icons at the bottom of each page:
 - 1) Home page or feed
In this section, users may view the followers and followings that were active at the time, the caption, the number of likes received, and any comments made on the post.
 - 2) Searching or exploring the page
By selecting the Explore page, a user may locate another user's account by entering their user's name in the top-right search field and discover whose posts have received the most likes and views.
 - 3) Camera symbol (posting page)
With these capabilities, users may edit images and videos they've already uploaded by adding 16 various filters and a variety of modification tools to change how they seem. This is a location where users can enhance photos they've shot with their device's camera, in addition to posting them.
 - 4) Notification symbol
The user will receive a signal from this symbol if there are any user likes, comments, tagging, or other users in what the user has posted, and in another follower post.
 - 5) Profile page
In Instagram, people who follow other users are referred to as "friends," while those who follow another Instagram user are referred to as "followers." A person may choose whether or not they want their followers to be the only ones who can see their posts.

In addition, Instagram boosts online identity and presence by connecting the physical and digital worlds, enabling more effective connection for both personal and professional reasons(Abbott et al.

2013). Photos or images submitted from any of them may be shared again since it functions as a social media platform where people, businesses, suppliers, and interest groups can simply join in, speeding up information distribution.(Karimkhani et al. 2014) As a result, many traditional offline businesses have gradually incorporated social networking services into their operations to more effectively connect and communicate with their current and potential customers. Instagram has also been found to be helpful in other industries, like academia (Salomon 2013), and medical industry (Karimkhani et al. 2014).

METHOD

In this research method is descriptive qualitative research. This research was conducted at a zoom meeting application. Participants' are college students' aged 20-30 years old who are followers of the @aarons.english instagram account, consisting of 10 college students' selected in a direct manner with the criteria of college students' aged 20-30 years old randomly. This study focuses on the use of Instagram application on @aarons.english account in college students' speaking skills. College students' watch the video on @aarons.english timeline. Then imitate the video that has their choose. Then, the writer interviewed 10 college students to analysis the perception of learning speaking skills on the @aarons.english account.

The writer uses observation and interview instruments. First, the writer distributes a google form containing the data needed for participant retrieval. google form shared with all followers of Instagram account @aarons.english. because this account has 649k followers, the writer only takes ten college students studying at universities in Jakarta and Bekasi, and the name of the university is also known by the writer. After getting data from the ten college students, the writer made observations through the zoom application.

When a meeting on the Zoom application was held, the writer asked students to introduce themselves briefly using English. Then the first results of their speaking skills were obtained. After that, the writer showed some videos from the @aarons.english Instagram account to students, then college students were asked to listen and pay attention to the video, then college students were asked to repeat the words in the video that had been shown. After that, the results were obtained from the ten college students who had watched the @aarons.english Instagram account video.

From there on, the writer asked the ten college students to fill out a questionnaire containing the use of the Instagram application on the @aarons.english account in learning to speak English. Next, the writer analyzes the data from observations and questionnaires that have been obtained.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The participants in this study were 10 college students from @aarons.english Instagram account followers between the ages of 20 and

30. Participants use Instagram as a medium of learning, especially in learning English. The following data from 10 college students:

Figure 4.1 The Demographic of Participant

No	Participants	Gender	Age	City
1	AR	M	27	Bekasi
2	RA	F	24	Jakarta
3	LNF	F	29	Bekasi
4	AS	M	30	Bekasi
5	RAS	F	24	Jakarta
6	TB	M	23	Jakarta
7	BU	M	22	Jakarta
8	ARF	M	26	Jakarta
9	SB	M	24	Jakarta
10	EY	F	24	Jakarta

The analysis carried out from the observations is:

a. AR (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The participant speak without fear	✓	
2	The participant speaks fluently	✓	
3	The participant used grammatical skills correctly	✓	
4	The pronunciation is easy to understand	✓	
5	The participants' look nervous when talking to each other		✓
6	They have a lot of vocabulary	✓	
7	The participant use English dictionary		✓
8	The participants' ask questions in English	✓	

9	Did the participants' leave zoom meeting during observation?		✓
10	Are the participants' interested in watching the video?	✓	

b. RA (female)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker is courageous in their speech	✓	
2	The participant speaks clearly		✓
3	The participant adhered to grammar rules	✓	
4	The pronunciation is simple	✓	
5	Do the participants seem strained when talking to one another?	✓	
6	They speak a lot of words	✓	
7	Use of an English dictionary by the participant?	✓	
8	Questions are posed by the participants in English?	✓	
9	Did anyone exit the Zoom meeting while it was being observed?		✓
10	Are the participants curious to see the video?	✓	

c. LNF (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker spoke without fear		✓
2	The speaker has a smooth accent		✓

3	The participant adhered to grammar rules		✓
4	The pronunciation is simple to comprehend	✓	
5	When conversing with one another, do the participants appear tense?	✓	
6	They speak with a large vocabulary		✓
7	Do they use an English dictionary?	✓	
8	There are inquiries in English from the participants	✓	
9	During the observation, did any attendees depart the Zoom meeting?		✓
10	Interested in seeing the film are the participants?	✓	

d. AS (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker talked fearlessly	✓	
2	The speaker's accent is neutral	✓	
3	The speaker followed grammatical conventions	✓	
4	The pronunciation is understandable		✓
5	Do the participants seem strained when talking to one another?		✓
6	They have a broad vocabulary		✓
7	Do they employ a dictionary in English?	✓	
8	The participants are asking questions in English, right?	✓	
9	Did anyone leave the Zoom meeting during the observation?	✓	

10	Are the participants eager to attend the movie?		✓
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e. RAS (female)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker spoke without hesitation		✓
2	The speaker has a neutral accent	✓	
3	The speaker adhered to grammar rules	✓	
4	The pronunciation makes sense		✓
5	Do the conversations amongst the participants appear tense?	✓	
6	They speak a variety of languages		✓
7	Do they use an English dictionary?		✓
8	Participants ask inquiries in English	✓	
9	During the observation, did anyone exit the Zoom meeting?		✓
10	Are the participants eager to attend the movie?		✓

f. TB (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker did not hesitate to speak	✓	
2	The speaker's accent is uninflected		✓
3	The speaker followed grammatical conventions		✓
4	The pronunciation is clear		✓
5	Do the participants' talks seem strained to you?	✓	

6	They can speak several languages		✓
7	Do they employ a dictionary in English?	✓	
8	Questions are posed by the participants in English?	✓	
9	Did he leave the Zoom meeting during the observation?	✓	
10	Are the attendees excited to watch the film?	✓	

g. BU (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker did not hesitate to speak		✓
2	The speaker's accent is uninflected	✓	
3	The speaker followed grammatical conventions	✓	
4	The pronunciation is clear		✓
5	Do the participants' talks seem strained to you?	✓	
6	They can speak several languages		✓
7	Do they employ a dictionary in English?	✓	
8	Questions are posed by the participants in English?		✓
9	Did he leave the Zoom meeting during the observation?		✓
10	Are the attendees excited to watch the film?	✓	

h. ARF (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The participant speak without fear	✓	
2	The participant speak fluently	✓	
3	The participant used grammatical skills correctly	✓	
4	The pronunciation is easy to understand	✓	
5	The participants' look nervous when talking to each other		✓
6	They have a lot of vocabulary	✓	
7	The participant use English dictionary		✓
8	The participants' ask questions in English	✓	
9	Did the participants' leave zoom meeting during observation?		✓
10	Are the participants' interested in watching the video?		✓

i. SB (male)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker is courageous in their speech		✓
2	The speaker is articulate		✓
3	The participant successfully used grammar rules		✓
4	It's simple to grasp how to say it		✓
5	The participants' look nervous when talking to each other		✓
6	They have a lot of vocabular	✓	
7	The participant use English dictionary	✓	

8	The participants' ask questions in English	✓	
9	Did the participants' leave zoom meeting during observation?		✓
10	Are the participants' interested in watching the video?	✓	

j. E (female)

No	Learning Activities	Yes	No
1	The speaker spoke without fear	✓	
2	The participant speak fluently	✓	
3	The participant used grammatical skills correctly	✓	
4	The pronunciation is easy to understand	✓	
5	The participants' look nervous when talking to each other		✓
6	They have a lot of vocabulary	✓	
7	The participant use English dictionary		✓
8	The participants' ask questions in English	✓	
9	Did the participants' leave zoom meeting during observation?		✓
10	Are the participants' interested in watching the video?	✓	

Interview Narration

The interview between the writer and the participants will be explained below:

a. How often do you watch @aarons.english Instagram account?

AR : *"Not too often, but sometimes I get video recommendations from Instagram."*

RA : *"I watch Instagram on a daily routine. The @aarons.english Instagram account is*

frequently found on my Instagram timeline, and when I watch it, the video is easier to understand. So, if your question is how often, you will certainly have time to watch the video once a week."

LNF : "When I have free time, I watch the @aarons.english Instagram account at least three times a week."

AS : "So yeah, sometimes when I open Instagram and @aarons.english appears on my timeline, it looks interesting, so I watched it."

RAS : "When I'm bored with my activity I will open my instagram, scroll through the timeline, and when it appears, I will watch the video from @aarons.english."

TB : "Just when I'am bored."

BU : "Because @aarons.english is on Instagram and I'm not too fond of opening it, so yeah, maybe just once a month."

ARF : "Just when I found it in my Instagram timeline."

SB : "When I get the notification update from @aarons.english Instagram account, so it's very often."

E : "Three times a day."

b. Are you a followers of @aarons.english on Instagram? what do you think about @aarons.english?

AR : "Yes, he can influence me to learn pronunciation."

RA : "Of course, his pronunciation is easy to understand."

LNF : "Yes, because he make a lot of content about English pronunciation."

AS : "Sure, the way he teaches is so fun."

RAS : "Yes, he is so helpful for me to learn about pronunciation."

TB : "Certainly, he is so smart to make a lot of contents about English."

BU : "Absolutely, he can help us to learn pronunciation."

ARF : "Yes, @aarong.english teaches pronunciation from the very basic so it's make a lot easier for beginner to learn pronunciation."

SB : "Right, he's pronunciation is nice."

E : *"Right, because I like him."*

c. How important is @aarons.english Instagram account to help you to learn speaking skill?

AR : *"it's important enough."*

RA : *"if it's given score from 1-10 I will give 9,99 for @aarons.english."*

LNF : *"Moderate."*

AS : *"It's important, even easy for beginners."*

RAS : *"It's important enough to learn, because what he did is easier to understand."*

TB : *"It's important because we have to learn wherever we are and with any media."*

BU : *"It's quite important, by using Instagram media, learning becomes fun."*

ARF : *"It's important, he can make me more confident."*

SB : *"It's very important, because @aarons.english is helpfully to learn speaking skill."*

E : *"Important, just a few foreigners like @aarons.english want to share their knowledge with us, and even teach us a lesson."*

d. Why do you use Instagram to learn?

AR : *"Because in this era, we can get a lot of information from social media, and it's easy to access."*

RA : *"It's boring if I just learn from the book."*

LNF : *"In instagram we can get a easier way to understand."*

AS : *"Because what they teach through Instagram can be easily understood."*

RAS : *"A fun way to learn than just through the book."*

TB : *"It is a fun way to learn foreign language."*

BU : *"It's give me a new experience to learn speaking skill."*

ARF : *"Because many influencers share how to learn speaking skill."*

SB : *"It's easy to access and free."*

E : *"Because Instagram is the most world famous application."*

e. What is the benefit can you get in learning speaking through Instagram with @aarons.english Instagram account?

- AR : *"I can easily understand the words given and increase my knowledge that I don't know before."*
- RA : *"Make learning English easier."*
- LNF : *"What he teaches really makes it easier for me to understand."*
- AS : *"I feel like I know a lot of vocabulary and how to pronounce words, in addition to understanding a lot of English theory. I enjoy watching @aarons.english because it gives me a chance to practice my pronounce."*
- RAS : *"We can say a word, and we know a lot of difficult to pronounce words."*
- TB : *"Many of the videos start to learn English from the beginning, as well as learning grammar and pronunciation so that we can pronounce words correctly like native speakers."*
- BU : *"I can understand and learn English faster from @aarons.english Instagram account."*
- ARF : *"The advantages include learning more about the range of idioms in English and how to pronounce words properly."*
- SB : *"Make me feel comfortable to learn English speaking skill."*
- E : *"@aarons.english give me a benefit to differentiate every word that has the same pronunciation but has a different meaning."*

f. In your opinion, what is the difficulties in learning speaking skill?

- AR : *"For me, the difficulties in learning speaking is the accent."*
- RA : *"Lack of words usage and grammar practice."*
- LNF : *"How to pronounce is quite difficult."*
- AS : *"there are a lot of problems in learning speaking skill, the reason is, lack of vocabulary, no interlocutor, nervousness, fear of criticism."*
- RAS : *"Unfamiliar words pronunciation."*
- TB : *"Common grammar mistakes while speaking English language."*
- BU : *"Lack of Confidence."*
- ARF : *"Distinguishing idioms."*
- SB : *"Motivation, because motivation plays a very important role in speaking English language,"*

so, I didn't take interest in speaking English language."

E : *"Limited number of vocabulary."*

g. How do you feel after following @aarons.english Instagram account, especially in learning speaking?

AR : *"Feel more comfortable."*

RA : *"Since following @aarons.english it is very helpful for speaking skill course."*

LNF : *"More fun, and increase my knowledge."*

AS : *"Make me understand the correct pronunciation."*

RAS : *"Make my pronunciation feel better."*

TB : *"My pronunciation becomes more fluent."*

BU : *"Make me feel like a native speaker when talking to my friends."*

ARF : *"Yes, I'am feeling helpfully."*

SB : *"@aarons.english can make me learn speaking skill without feeling tense."*

E : *"Make me more confident."*

h. What are your perception on using @aarons.english Instagram account?

AR : *"It can be useful for beginner."*

RA : *"@aarons.english can help me in improving my pronunciation."*

LNF : *"Yes, it can help us that are left behind in terms of English."*

AS : *"I think practicing with @aarons.english during the pandemic is one of the best ways. Because we can learn online, and the material is also quite easy to understand."*

RAS : *"Very efficient."*

TB : *"@aarons.english is quite helpful for me in learning English. Whether it's adding vocabulary, pronunciation, even speaking."*

BU : *"It is very good to learn speaking skill through Instagram, one of them through @aarons.english account, because he teaches us in a cool, fun way and we don't feel pressured when learning speaking."*

ARF : *"It is quite useful to use what is available, such as Instagram learning, and unlike English courses, we can learn whenever we want and it's interesting if we learn through Instagram."*

- SB : *"In this 4.0 era learning through Instagram is quite effective, of course, because we need something entertaining but also if it can educate too, so the answer is we need learning through social media like Instagram."*
- E : *"Instagram is very good for learning English where we can improve our vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and other part of speaking skill. So, it helps me to correct my mistakes that i have done before and I learn a lot of things through Instagram in terms of English speaking skills."*

i. Why do you choose @aarons.english Instagram account more than other Instagram account?

- AR : *"Because the material is to be delivered is basic and the delivery is distinctive and interesting."*
- RA : *"The videos from @aarong.english is easy to understand so it doesn't take me long to understand the content of the video."*
- LNF : *"There are many things that can be learned from @aarons.english because it discusses English in a calm and informal manner."*
- AS : *"Because when there is @aarons.english Instagram account appears on my timeline, it looks very interesting to watch and when I watched it turns out to be really interesting."*
- RAS : *"Because I think the way of delivery is fun. Which can make topics that were previously a bit difficult to undersetand seem easier."*
- TB : *"Because, I love the way he teach."*
- BU : *"The language he uses in every content is very easy to understand."*
- ARF : *"Because, he is the first language teaching influencer that I found."*
- SB : *"He teaches happily."*
- E : *"The material he provides is very easy to put into practice."*

j. Do you think Instagram is a good tool to encourage students to learn speaking skill?

- AR : *"Yes, because in Instagram there are so many people who want to share their knowledge about speaking skill."*

- RA : *"Sure, because in this era, social media like Instagram is a fun media to share knowledge, information and everything, to earn their goal or achievement."*
- LNF : *"Agree, because it's not boring to learn from Instagram."*
- AS : *"Of course, because there are so many content creator or influencer who make learning content so interesting."*
- RAS : *"Absolutely, Instagram is such a good application to make learning more fun."*
- TB : *"Yes, because so many people can't get out of the grip of their cell phone."*
- BU : *"Sure, as time goes on, learning is not only from the books."*
- ARF : *"I don't think so, it's depending on the user, they use Instagram more to study or not."*
- SB : *"Yes, Instagram can motivates and boosts the college students' interest to practice speaking in English."*
- E : *"Yes, instagram motivates me for learning a better English when I read the comments in English, video in english, I will be curious to learn more and more."*

Based on the results of explanation above, there are many content creators who create educational content related to English, both in the form of photos and videos. Further, it is believed that learning English through Instagram really helps participants to gain new knowledge and repeat what they have learned on campus. They often say that "the material is simple" related to learning from Instagram. Indeed, the English learning materials available on Instagram are very simple because the features on Instagram are limited, unlike when learning in class in general. Educational content on Instagram is enjoyable since the time limitation on posting photos and videos. It becomes a weakness and an advantage at the same time because the material being taught is straight to the point. The summary of the observation results are the participants' speak without fearless, speak fluently, used grammatical, skill correctly, easy understand and a lot of vocabulary.

CONCLUSION

According to the results and data analysis from the study "An Analysis of the Students Perception of English Speaking Skills on Aarons. English Instagram Account," which was conducted by the author. The author concluded that students perception in utilizing Instagram to practice English speaking skills motivates them, because the @aarons.english Instagram account offers a fun way to do so since it uses live streaming and giveaways that are appropriate for students. They may learn English speaking skills

more easily and comfortably thanks to the @aarons.english Instagram account. In addition to teaching them how to speak English, @aarons.english also helps them relax while learning because they do it in their free time.

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