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# The Effectiveness of the Use of Social Media Networking in English as a Second Language Learning

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**Abstract** - Current use of technologies to support English language teaching and learning plays a major role. Language learning has persuaded to promote self-directed learning and develop autonomy among learners in this emerging world of technology. With the interest and need to incorporate technology in language learning environment, Social Media Assisted Language Learning (SMALL) emerges as an important learning mechanism. This research was conducted to ascertain to what extent undergraduates of Faculty of Islamic Studies & Arabic Language (FIA) use social media networking platforms for English language learning. The study also explored the perceptions of English as a Second Language Learners at FIA. Moreover, the study investigated the impacts of SMALL on English language learning among the undergraduates. For this study, sixty-five first year students were randomly selected from the Faculty of Islamic Studies & Arabic Language. Mixed method research design comprising questionnaire survey and focus group discussion was used. The findings revealed that students use social media networking platforms for enhancing their English language learning. Majority of the undergraduates use social media networking platforms for English language proficiency. Majority of the undergraduates use Whatsapp and YouTube platforms for grammar, Vocabulary and pronunciation. Even though Facebook facilitates language proficiency, majority do not use it for general and English language learning. Telegram and Instagram are new to majority of the undergraduates of FIA. Therefore, those social media platforms are not considered as effective tools for English language learning. The study also suggested that further research should be conducted to establish the concept “SMALL” by doing experimental studies.

**Keywords:** Social media, Social media networking, English as a second language learning, Social Media Assisted Language Learning (SMALL)