

# Listening through Earth Based Learning

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*Abstract— English for environment Education was changing in digital age. The research aimed to improve English listening skill of environment learners in Thailand through the Earth-Based Learning (EBL). There was experimental research design with one group samplings for 15 modules of 15 weeks. The sampling was 63 environment undergraduate students at faculty of environment and resource studies at Maharakham University, Thailand. There were five phases of research. Phase I, analysis the learners and listening earth contents. Phase II, design the listening earth web-based learning. Phase III, develop the listening earth web-based learning that access at <http://www.nadoon.online/indexeng 2023.html>. Phase IV, implement the listening earth web-based learning in environment English classroom. Phase V, evaluate the listening earth web-based learning by 15 exercises from 15 modules. The tools were the listening earth web-based learning, the listening tests, and the attitude questionnaire. The result found that the listening earth web-based learning was effective. The listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning.*

**Index Terms—** *adult education, environment, second language, technology-based instruction*

## I. BACKGROUND

Language is a system of communication among people in each country that consisting of sounds, words, and grammar. [3] English is the most commonly used language for international communication that estimated about two billion persons use English.[2] Moreover, English became the official language in 53 countries and currently the language for the estimated 565 million people in cyberspace.[11] About 52% of the websites were displayed in English. Including, any films, TV shows, books and music were produced in English.[5] Since English was important nowadays, Thailand tried to improve English skills among adult citizenship.

Thailand is the 50th largest country in the world, with an area of 513,120. square kilometre and located in the middle of Southeast Asia. The King is the head of the country. Thailand has a democratic government with the Prime Minister is the head of the government. Although Thailand has small area, Thailand has the 20th largest population in the world. There are approximately 66 million people and being adults 44.97%.[7] So, the large groups in Thailand that still using English language for communication.

English had a great impact in Thailand because Thai society used English for long existence in the country.[14] In schools, English used as a compulsory subject to be taught in Grade 1-12. At the university, English was a required subject for all fields of students. Besides, English training institutes offered various English courses to both children and adults. Especially, technological teaching aids in the English language classroom was applied.[10]

Thai knows that there are four English skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing. They always use most desirable skill in face-to-face communication in the globalization era.[6] Listening skill was elders recited tribal histories to attentive audiences for religious, myths, legends, folktales, and stories for entertainment. Listening was purposeful motivation and effort. Besides, verbal communication involves both speaking and listening in

various ways, business organization, relationships of staff, interaction with customers or classroom. Without understanding of listening, any learning simply cannot begin.[8]

Although English was generally used in Thailand, many students became passive in class. Some were shy to speak and felt fear of making mistakes. English proficiency of Thai was low because lacking of knowledge of grammar, useful expressions, and word pronunciation. There is a lack of everyday English media among the Thai majority. This can make it difficult for learners to practice listening [13] Thai adults had very minimal opportunities to exercise spoken English resulting to having a poor listening and speaking skills. [4] The activities to improve listening skill conducted in many countries.[9] used online technology to improve English skills as speak, listen, and read with collaborative and independent learning. Al-Jarf, (2022). applied Youtube for solving many EFL students the limited opportunities of listen to native speakers out of class and have problems in listening. Taghizadeh & Saadatjoo (2021) found learners have limited linguistic knowledge and listening skills at the Iran University of Science and Technology and 96% of learners' satisfaction of additional scaffolding by instructors.

Finally, the researcher tried to improve English listening skills among Thai adults because Listening is the most important of the four English language skills and is used most often in everyday communication.

## II. OBJECTIVE

The research aimed to improve English listening skill of environment learners in Thailand through the Earth-Based Learning (EBL).

## III. METHODS

The listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning. There was experimental research design with one group samplings for 15 modules of 15 weeks. The sampling

was 63 environment undergraduate students at faculty of environment and resource studies at Mahasarakham University, Thailand. The tools were the listening earth web-based learning, the listening tests, and the attitude questionnaire. There were five phases of research. Phase I, analysis the learners and listening earth contents. Phase II, design the listening earth web-based learning. Phase III, develop the listening earth web-based learning that access at <https://www.nadoon.online/indexeng2023.html>. Phase IV, implement the listening earth web-based learning in environment English classroom. Phase V, evaluate the listening earth web-based learning by 15 exercises from 15 modules.

#### IV. RESULTS

The result found that the listening earth web-based learning was effective. The earth listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning. There were three parts of results as follow.

##### A. Learning Modules of Earth Based Learning (EBL)

The results of Table I provided information on the 15 modules of the listening earth web-based learning for adult environment learner. The modules presented earth concepts such as Environment, Waste, Pollution, Global warming, Population, Energy, Climate change, Disaster, Biodiversity, Genetic Modification, Deforestation, Health, Business, and Technology. There were five vocabularies in each module for checking skill of listening in each adult learner.

Table I. Learning Modules of Earth-Based learning

Week	Topic	Listening Vocabularies
1	Environment	Geographical environment, Man-made environment, Environmentalist, Environmental issues, Environment education
2	Waste	Packaging, Agricultural waste, Pesticide, Waste disposal, 3R
3	Pollution	Radioactive, Carbon monoxide, Land pollution, decibels (dB), Pollution control
4	Global Warming	Greenhouse gases, Carbon dioxide, China, Reforestation, Carbon credit
5	Population	People, Demography, China, Overpopulation, Population control
6	Energy	Power, Renewable energy, Geothermal, Dam, Nonrenewable energy
7	Extinction	Parkinson, Animal, Brazil, Risk, Conservation legislation
8	Climate change	Temperatures, Carbon dioxide, Heatwaves, Global Sea Level, Clean energy
9	Disaster	Natural disaster, Human-caused disaster, United States, 3 golden rules, Dehydration
10	Biodiversity	Biodiversity, Fish, Wetlands, Australia, National parks

Week	Topic	Listening Vocabularies
11	Genetic Modification	GMOs, Scientific process, Genome editing, Pink pineapples, Argentina
12	Deforestation	Cutting down, Taiga, Tropical rainforest, Coffee, Fossil fuels
13	Health	Health, Four pillars, Happiest countries, Swiss, Tulip
14	Business	Business, Beef, Singapore, Petroleum, Switzerland
15	Technology	Solar energy, Green technology, Sustainability, Organic Agriculture, Global warming

##### B. Learning Access of Earth Based Learning (EBL)

The results of Fig. 1 presented the front page of the listening earth web-based learning. The learners can access by self-directed learning at <https://www.nadoon.online/indexeng2023.html>. There were 15 units of listening earth. When the learner entered the website, they can select the earth listening exercises from L1-L15 (15 Units). Finally, they can evaluate listening test with LO unit.

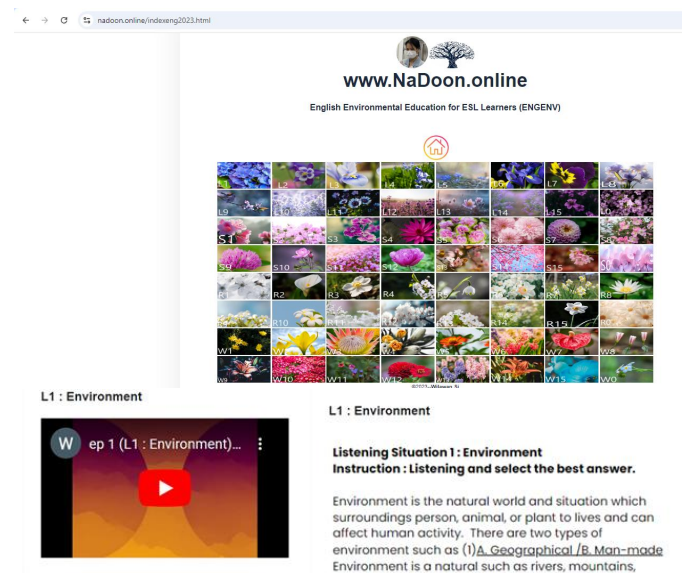


Fig1. Access of Earth Based Learning at <https://www.nadoon.online/indexeng2023.html>

##### C. Learning Evaluation of Earth Based Learning (EBL)

The results of Table II showed information on the evaluate of earth listening skill among adult environment learners by pretest and posttest. The earth listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning by survey.

Table II. Evaluation of Earth Based Learning

Listening	n	Mean	S.D.	ΣD	t	p
Pretest	100	58.31	39.30	2.73	5.00	.000*
Posttest	100	61.04	41.48			

\*p < 0.05

## V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The result found that the listening earth web-based learning was effective. The earth listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning. The results were confirmed as applying Technology for improving English skills in many research for example Negoescu (2023) used online technology to improve English skills as speak, listen, and read with collaborative and independent learning. Al-Jarf, (2022). applied Youtube for solving many EFL students the limited opportunities of listen to native speakers out of class and have problems in listening. Taghizadeh (2021) found learners have limited linguistic knowledge and listening skills at the Iran University of Science and Technology and 96% of learners' satisfaction of additional scaffolding by instructors. Technology was the benefit tool to improve English for environment Education was changing in digital age. The research applied Web-based technology for improving listening for adult in Thailand. This tool called "Earth listening" with listening for 15 modules in 45 hours. There were five phases of research. Phase I, analysis the learners and listening earth contents. Phase II, design the listening earth web-based learning. Phase III, develop the listening earth web-based learning that access at <http://www.nadoon.online/indexeng2023.html>. Phase IV, implement the listening earth web-based learning in environment English classroom. Phase V, evaluate the listening earth web-based learning by 15 exercises from 15 modules. The result found that the listening earth web-based learning was effective. The listening skills of learners improve posttest higher than pretest and the learners had positive satisfaction after learning. This activity was suitable for adult learners who used English as second language as Thailand.

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