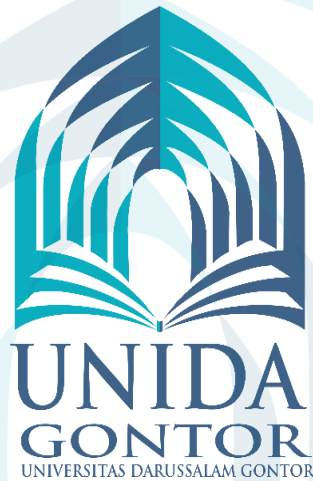


**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOP-DOWN AND BOTTOM-UP  
APPROACH IN TEACHING LISTENING SKILLS FOR THIRD  
SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY  
OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR**



By:

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION**

**TARBIYAH FACULTY**

**UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR**

**1446 H / 2025 M**

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APPROACH IN TEACHING LISTENING SKILLS FOR THIRD  
SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY  
OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR**

**A THESIS**

Presented

In Partial Fulfilment of Requirements  
to Complete the Undergraduate Programs

Department of English Education

Faculty of Tarbiyah

By:

Nirmala Wulaningrum

42.2021.1.3.8044

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**UNIVERSITY OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR**

**1446 H / 2025 M**



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**ABSTRACT**  
**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOP-DOWN AND BOTTOM-UP**  
**APPROACH IN TEACHING LISTENING SKILLS FOR THIRD**  
**SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY**  
**OF DARUSSALAM GONTOR**

Nirmala Wulaningrum  
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Listening is one of the essential skills in learning English. A person cannot speak or express their opinions without first listening. Many aspects of life use English as their primary language. Therefore, learning English has become crucial. However, learners have different backgrounds and varying abilities in the learning process. Thus, the use of strategies in teaching listening is essential to maintaining classroom order and achieving learning objectives effectively.

This research aims to identify the strategies used by lecturers in teaching listening and how these strategies are implemented. Specifically, this study investigate the application of top-down and bottom-up listening strategies. Top-down listening involves using prior knowledge, context, and background information to understand spoken language, while bottom-up listening focuses on decoding sounds, words, and grammatical structures to derive meaning. Understanding how lecturers incorporate these approaches can provide insights into effective listening instruction. The study was conducted at Darussalam Gontor University during the 2024/2025 academic year. This research employs a descriptive qualitative method using several instruments, including interviews and documentation. The participants in this study were students from the Department of English Language Education program at Darussalam Gontor University.

The findings indicate that the implementation of academic listening skills among third-semester English Language Education students at the University of Darussalam Gontor (2024/2025). Findings reveal that the teacher employs an integrated three-stage approach—pre-, while-, and post-listening—while considering student factors. Pre-listening activates prior knowledge and top-down processing, while-listening combines top-down and bottom-up strategies, and post-listening enhances comprehension through interactive activities. Additionally, student motivation, interest, and participation play a crucial role in improving listening comprehension. These insights highlight the importance of a structured approach and learner engagement in teaching listening skills effectively.

*Keywords: listening, top down, bottom up*

**ABSTRAK**  
**PENERAPAN PENDEKATAN TOP-DOWN DAN BOTTOM-UP DALAM**  
**PENGAJARAN KETERAMPILAN MENDENGARKAN PADA**  
**MAHASISWA SEMESTER TIGA PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN**  
**BAHASA INGGRIS DI UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR**

Mendengarkan adalah salah satu keterampilan esensial dalam pembelajaran bahasa Inggris. Seseorang tidak dapat berbicara atau mengungkapkan pendapat mereka tanpa terlebih dahulu mendengarkan. Banyak aspek kehidupan menggunakan bahasa Inggris sebagai bahasa utama. Oleh karena itu, belajar bahasa Inggris menjadi sangat penting. Namun, setiap pembelajar memiliki latar belakang dan kemampuan yang berbeda dalam proses belajar. Dengan demikian, penggunaan strategi dalam pengajaran keterampilan mendengarkan sangat diperlukan untuk menjaga ketertiban kelas dan mencapai tujuan pembelajaran secara efektif.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi strategi yang digunakan oleh dosen dalam mengajar keterampilan mendengarkan serta bagaimana strategi tersebut diterapkan. Secara khusus, penelitian ini menyelidiki penerapan strategi top-down dan bottom-up dalam pengajaran listening.

Strategi top-down melibatkan penggunaan pengetahuan sebelumnya, konteks, dan informasi latar belakang untuk memahami bahasa lisan, sedangkan strategi bottom-up berfokus pada pemrosesan suara, kata, dan struktur tata bahasa untuk mendapatkan makna. Memahami bagaimana dosen menerapkan pendekatan ini dapat memberikan wawasan tentang pengajaran keterampilan mendengarkan yang efektif. Penelitian ini dilakukan di Universitas Darussalam Gontor pada tahun akademik 2024/2025. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif deskriptif dengan beberapa instrumen, termasuk wawancara dan dokumentasi. Partisipan dalam penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris di Universitas Darussalam Gontor.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penerapan keterampilan mendengarkan akademik di kalangan mahasiswa semester tiga Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Darussalam Gontor (2024/2025) melibatkan pendekatan tiga tahap yang terintegrasi pre-listening, while-listening, dan post-listening-dengan mempertimbangkan berbagai faktor mahasiswa. Tahap pre-listening bertujuan untuk mengaktifkan pengetahuan sebelumnya dan menerapkan pemrosesan top-down. Tahap while-listening menggabungkan strategi top-down dan bottom-up, sementara tahap post-listening meningkatkan pemahaman melalui aktivitas interaktif. Selain itu, motivasi, minat, dan partisipasi mahasiswa memainkan peran penting dalam meningkatkan pemahaman mendengarkan. Temuan ini menekankan pentingnya pendekatan yang terstruktur dan keterlibatan aktif mahasiswa dalam pengajaran keterampilan mendengarkan yang efektif.

*Kata kunci: mendengarkan, top down, bottom up*

DECISION OF SUPERVISOR

Honorable,  
Dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah  
University of Darussalam Gontor  
Ponorogo

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,  
Assalamu'alaikum wr. wb.*

It's my honor to present the thesis written by:

Name : Nirmala Wulaningrum  
Student Number : 42.2021.1.3.8044  
Title : The Implementation of Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approach  
in Teaching Listening Skills for Third Semester Students of English Department at  
University of Darussalam Gontor

I declare that this thesis has been processed and corrected to fulfill the  
requirement for the Licentiate degree in the Faculty of Tarbiyah.

Therefore, I request that the thesis could be examined soon.

*Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb.*

Ngawi, 12 Rajab 1446 H  
12 Januari 2025 M

Supervisor,

  
Aries Fachriza, M.Pd

## DECISION OF THE TEAM



Faculty of Tarbiyah  
كلية التربية

### DECISION OF THE TEAM

The committee of thesis examination in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Licentiate in English Language Education in the Faculty of Tarbiyah, University of Darussalam Gontor, Indonesia, declared that the thesis written by:

Name : Nirmala Wulaningrum  
Student Number : 42.2021.1.3.8044  
Title : The Implementation of Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approach in Teaching Listening Skills for Third Semester Students of English Department at University of Darussalam Gontor

Had been examined on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2025

The board of examiners has decided to grant her passed in the thesis examination. Hence, she is eligible to be awarded the degree of Licentiate in English Language Education in the Faculty of Tarbiyah.

Siman, 16 Sya'ban 1446 H  
15 Februari 2025 M

Chairman,

Aries Fachriza, M.Pd

1. Diska Fatima Virgiyanti, M.Pd

2. Dian Nashrul Munif, M.Pd

UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR



## DECISION OF DEAN



Faculty of Tarbiyah  
كلية التربية

### DECISION OF DEAN

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

*Assalamu 'alaikum wr. wb.*

The Faculty of Tarbiyah, University of Darussalam Gontor, Ponorogo  
Indonesia has been received a thesis written by:

Name : Nirmala Wulaningrum  
Student Number : 42.2021.1.3.8044  
Title : The Implementation of Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approach  
in Teaching Listening Skills for Third Semester Students of English Department at  
University of Darussalam Gontor

In partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Licentiate of English  
Language Education in the Faculty of Tarbiyah, academic year 1445-1446/2024-  
2025.

*Wassalamu 'alaikum wr. wb.*

Ngawi, 16 Sya'ban 1446 H  
15 Februari 2025 M

Dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah,

**Dr. Agus Budiman, M.Pd.**

UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR



## STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY THESIS



Faculty of Tarbiyah  
كلية التربية

### STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Hereby,

Name : Nirmala Wulaningrum  
Student Number : 422021138044  
Title : The Implementation of Top-Down And Bottom-Up Approach  
in Teaching Listening Skills for Third Semester Students of English Department at  
University of Darussalam Gontor

I declare sincerely that this thesis originally belongs to my own work and does not belong to other researchers for different degrees. Furthermore, this thesis is not a work published before, except for some parts with their original references.

Otherwise, if it is found that this thesis contains plagiarism, I'm ready to be terminated academically.

Ngawi, 12 Januari 1446 H  
12 Rajab 2025 M

Researcher,



Nirmala Wulaningrum

UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR

## MOTTO

الْإِنشَاءُ هَلْ نَفْسًا إِنْ وَضَعْنَا هَلْ لَا إِيَّاهَا إِمَّا كَاسْبَاتٍ أَوْ عَلَايَ إِيَّاهَا إِمَّا كُنَّا اسْبَاتٍ ۚ أَرَبَانَا  
تُؤَاخِذُنَا إِنْ نَسِينَا أَوْ أَخْطَأْنَا ۚ أَرَبَانَا أَوْ الْتَاخِمْ عَلَيْنَا أَصْرًا كَإِمَّا أَحْ أَمَلْتَاه  
عَلَى الْإِنشَاءِ إِنْ مِنْ قَائِلِنَا ۚ أَرَبَانَا أَوْ الْتَاخِمْ أَحْ ۚ أَمَلْنَا إِمَّا الْإِنشَاءَ لَنَا بِهِ ۚ أَوْغْفَ أَعْنَاءُ  
أَوْغْفَ لَنَا ۚ أَوْزَ احْمِنَا ۚ إِنْ اتَّامُلْنَا فَاَنْصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَفَرِيِّ إِنْ

### Al-Baqarah 286

“Composing this thesis has been a meaningful journey”

Behind every word and number, there lies a struggle and a spirit to continuously  
learn.

I realize that success is inseparable from the support and guidance of various  
parties.

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## DEDICATION

With profound gratitude to Allah, the Creator of the universe, I dedicate this thesis  
to:

My beloved and dearest parents, Mr. Iing Sobihin and Mrs. Hikmawati, whose unwavering love and support have been my constant source of strength. Your guidance, prayers, and sacrifices have shaped me into the person I am today.

My beloved brother and sister, Inggar Ardiansyah and Adisty Wulaningtyas thank you for your encouragement and belief in me. Your presence has made this journey less arduous.

My beloved friend eight semester of the English Language Education Department, your insightful affection, guidance, and experiences have enriched my academic journey.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Allah SWT said:

(Q.S Al Insyirah: 7, 8)

فَإِذَا فَرَغْتَ فَانصَبْ ۖ وَإِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ فَارْغَبْ ۝

Meaning: "So when you have finished (something), work seriously on another (business), And only in your Lord should you hope" (QS. Insyirah: 7,8)

*Alhamdulillah*, the researcher expresses this gratitude to Allah SWT, who has given the researcher the strength to complete this research. Prayers and greetings, the researcher honors our Prophet Muhammad SAW, who has provided a role model in the people's lives to continue actively taking part in jihad fisabilillah.

1. Special thanks to the Head of Darussalam Gontor Islamic Boarding School, K.H Hasan Abdul Sahal, Drs. K.H Muhammad Akrim Mariyat, Dipl.A.Ed, and Prof. Dr. K.H Amal Fathullah Zarkasyi, M.A. Who supported guided prayer and advised the researcher on the practical approaches and strategies of the research.
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3. Dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah, Dr. Agus Budiman, M.Pd.; Vice Dean I of Academic and Students Affairs, Dr. Ihwan Mahmudi, S.H.I., M.Pd.; Vice Dean II of Finance, Dr. Azmi Zarkasyi, Lc., M.A., and Vice Dean III of Research and Cooperation, Dr. Alif Cahya Setiyadi, M.A., who sincerely and heartfelt teach and educate us about the meaning of struggle.
4. Head of English Language Education, Mr. Aries Fachriza, M.Pd., and the lecturers who continuously provide guidance and instruction. Through their upbringing, we have finally stood their step. May Allah reciprocate each act of kindness by pouring a reward. All the lecturers who have taught and educated

during the learning process at the University of Darussalam Gontor, both in and out of class

5. Mr Aries Fachriza, M.Pd as my supervisor, has been instrumental in assisting me with the completion of this thesis. He has taught me the importance of patience and meticulousness in my research. His guidance and knowledge have been invaluable as he has consistently motivated me to continue learning and growing academically.
6. Miss Dinar Dipta, M.Pd as my validator in my research instrument, has provided input on how to express sentences that are appropriate to become research instruments with this patience in guiding, directing, motivating from small things, and strengthening all the students.
7. All of my English Language Education friends in the third Semester have always done and worked hard together to perfect this research.
8. My deepest gratitude goes to my beloved parents Mr Iing Sobihin and Mrs Hikmawati, whose unwavering support has made my journey possible. I dedicate this achievement to the two most important people in my life, who have filled my days with happiness and made my life seem effortless. Thank you for your endless prayers and for encouraging me to chase my dreams, may Allah fulfill all your wishes
9. With deep gratitude, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Abdullah Afif Effendi and his family for all the support, kindness, and warmth you have given. Your sincere help and prayers have been a source of encouragement and strength for me. May Allah reward your kindness with blessings, happiness, and His abundant mercy.

Mantingan, 12 Januari 2025



Nirmala Wulaningrum