

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Technology is a tool that can be used for students to make them easier when learning something (Costley, 2014: 4). Technology changes what people do and do what can they do, which one is expected from the targeted application of knowledge. Sometimes, people make unexpected use of technology, which is a problem that must be taken into account by the designer. The goal of technology is to use technology to support and facilitate learning and instruction. For the students' especially English Foreign Language students, they need technology that can be used as well. One type of technology that can be used for students especially in EFL students they need something like dictionary to help their learning process.

Nowadays, everyone can learn using the dictionary on their mobile phone. They can use dictionary applications in their mobile phone to simplify what they do in the learning process. Dictionary applications is one kind of technology that students usually use. Dictionary applications can be used in mobile phone, laptop, or computer. There are two kinds of dictionary applications, online and offline dictionary. Dictionary applications are very familiar for all of the people around the world.

There are a lot of people that have different perceptions in the use of dictionary applications. Both of positive and negative perceptions are important because from the perceptions the researcher want to know the role of dictionaries in student learning experiences. The data that will be obtained may be carried out training about the use of dictionaries in the teaching-learning process which will make students aware of extensive vocabulary input that must be understood by the students. Student perceptions are very important because it can be to learn dictionary applications can be used to improve productive language skills or not.

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

A dictionary application is one kind of technology that can be used for EFL students to help their English learning process. It has become very important thing for students. English is not our first language. So, sometimes they may find some difficult meaning of the words in the sentence or text, and when they find the difficulties, they can looking for the meaning in their dictionary applications. it is not just about the meaning. But, there are provided a listening tool that students can listen the good pronunciation, there are also given examples of sentences as well as synonyms and antonyms, and also mention the class of words in every word. It can be used everywhere and wherever we are. Using dictionary applications are helpful and very simple.

C. The problem of the Research

The problem of this research can be stated by the question:

1. What is the EFL students' perceptions in the use of the dictionary applications?
2. Why do EFL students choose dictionary applications as a medium for learning English?

D. The aim of the Research

The aim of this research is:

1. to know the EFL students' perceptions in the use of dictionary applications.
2. to know the EFL students' reason about choosing dictionary applications as a medium for learning English.

E. The contribution of The Research

This study will give contributions to some parties, those are:

1. Firstly, this research may become one of the literature for the next research.
2. Secondly, this research will give information to the readers generally about EFL students' perceptions in the use of dictionary applications.
3. Thirdly, this research will be as a consideration to the certain parties to develop the application as the users need.

F. Scope of the Research

To avoid the intersection and expanding the research problem in this research, the writer make a limitation in the discussion. Dictionary applications has purpose to learning many language, but in this research the writer focus on a language that is English. So, the limitation of dictionary applications is to learning about English language.

