

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher attempts to explain the background of the research, reasons for choosing the topic, the problem of the research, objective of the research, clarification of terms, and contribution of the research.

A. Background of the research

In this global era, the development of technology interacts with and influences innovation in education. Educational technology advances have been integrated into education and changed educational delivery methods, for example, students can have access to educational content from a distance. It is in line with Sanjaya (2020: 22) stated that the online learning method does not require students in the same places (class), students can access learning through internet media. Online learning will provide opportunities for students to take certain lessons or courses in the situation that do not make it possible to learning directly.

In Indonesia, there are still many teaching and learning activities that prioritize face-to-face meetings in class. However, with the Covid-19 pandemic widespread, all activities must be done from home. Directorate General of Disease Prevention and Control (2020: 11) stated that Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is a new type of virus that has never been identified in humans. Coronavirus is a zoonosis (can be transmitted between animals or

humans). The covid-19 pandemic first appeared in the city of Wuhan, China at the end of December 2019 and began an epidemic in Indonesia at the beginning of March 2020.

The Minister of Education and Culture, Nadiem Anwar Makarim, issued Circular Number 4 of 2020 concerning the Implementation of Education in Emergency Coronavirus (Covid-19). Indonesia's education model and the rule changed drastically because after the outbreak of the Covid-19 face to face learning is replaced by online learning for all of levels education in Indonesia to reduce the spread of the virus. E-Learning is the alternative way for education in the middle of the Covid 19 outbreak. According to Suartama (2014: 20), through e-learning, the material provided to students can be accessed anytime and from anywhere, in addition to getting material that can be enriched or equipped with a variety of supporting learning resources including multimedia that can be supported by teachers.

The use of the internet in the learning system is also done by students of SMK Muhammadiyah 1 Purbalingga. Online learning is carried out on all courses including English subjects. However, in SMK Muhammadiyah 1 Purbalingga, the use of e-learning is a new thing for most students because they usually use face-to-face learning material, but in this situation e-learning is the best option to continue the learning activities. In this case, students may have different perceptions about the use of e-learning during pandemic COVID-19. Therefore the researcher wants to investigate how students perceive after experiencing the learning process through E-Learning. Then,

from the explanation above the researcher conduct a study entitled “*Students’ Perception on the Use of E-Learning in English Classes during Pandemic (A Study at 11th Grade of SMK Muhammadiyah 1 Purbalingga in Academic Year 2020/2021)*”

B. Reason for choosing the topic

The researcher chooses the topic on **students’ perception of the use of e-learning in English classes during a pandemic** is based on the following reasons:

1. English is a foreign language taught in schools and must be studied by students in Indonesia.
2. By using e-learning in the learning process during COVID-19, it is possible for students to have different perceptions toward the learning activity in English classes.
3. Students who have a good perception can be motivated to learn English. So, the researcher wanted to know the perception of each student in learning English during the pandemic.

C. The problem of the Research

Based on the research background above, the research problems is stated as follows:

1. What is student’s perception toward the use of e-learning in English classes during the pandemic?
2. What are the benefits of e-learning from the students’ point of view?

D. The aim of the Research

Considering the problems of the study above, the researcher has the aim of the study:

1. To know students' perception of the use of e-learning in English classes during the pandemic.
2. To know the benefits of e-learning from students' point of view.

E. Clarifications of the Terms

To avoid misunderstanding the researcher needs to clarify the key terms as follows:

1. Perception

Perception is a process by which individuals organize and interpret their sensory impressions to give meaning to their environment. However, what we perceive can be substantially different from objective reality. (Stephen P. Robbins, 2015:166).

2. E-learning

E-Learning is a medium for learning English during the pandemic without going to school. Suartama (2014:20) stated that through e-learning, the material provided to students can be accessed anytime and from anywhere, in addition to getting material that can be enriched or equipped with a variety of supporting learning resources including multimedia that can be supported by teachers.

3. Learning English

The English language has become an international language that is widely adopted for communication worldwide, as it became a tool of communication between native and non-native speakers. (Fatiha et al., 2014:121). In Indonesia English is taught as a foreign language, so that the students must learn English as a compulsory subject.

4. COVID-19 Pandemic

Directorate General of Disease Prevention and Control (2020:11) stated that Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is a new type of virus that has never been identified in humans. Coronavirus is a zoonosis (can be transmitted between animals or humans). The covid-19 pandemic first appeared in the city of Wuhan, China at the end of December 2019 and began an epidemic in Indonesia at the beginning of March 2020.

F. Contribution of the Research

By doing the research, the research expects that the finding of the research may be useful for:

1. For students

Students can use e-learning in English classes although during a distance way without face to face directly. By using e-learning students can learn the material that provides by the teacher because e-learning will be used as a medium in learning English during a pandemic.

2. For teacher

The use of e-learning can help teachers in teaching English during the pandemic. By knowing students' perceptions about the use of e-learning, teachers can improve their skills in teaching material so that the teaching-learning process becomes innovative.

3. For other researchers

This research can be one of the references to conduct further research on Students' perception of the use of e-learning in English classes during the pandemic.

