

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL REVIEW

In this chapter, the researcher attempts to explain the theoretical review that includes definitions of perception, learning English, E-Learning, and Covid-19 pandemic.

A. Review of Related Theory

1. The Nature of Perception

a. The Definition of Perception

Human life is not separated from its environment; humans are connected to the environment since they were born into the world. Starting at the same time the individual receives stimuli from outside, and this relates to perceptions. Perception is a process that involves senses, senses as mediator continues what we call stimulus to the brain, causing someone to experience a perception, It is in relation with what Slameto (2010: 102) explains that perception is a process related to the move of message or information into human's brain.

Perception is related to opinion from an individual being towards the stimulus, causing the individual to conclude what they experienced. People that have a perception of an object can be positive or negative. Through perception, people can create a relationship with the environment through the senses. It is in line with George and Jones in Rahayu (2016:4) who stated that perception is described as the process

by which an individual selects, organizes, and translates into a coherent sense of stimulation with all the happening in the world.

Based on the definitions of perception above, it can be concluded that perception is a process of the person interprets and gives an opinion about something after they get the stimulus from the environment through the sensory organs. Furthermore, regarding the use of e-learning in learning English by students in the classroom and the result of the perception can be positive or negative.

b. Factors Influencing Someone's Perception

Perception is different from one person to another. It is affected by factors that make a difference in people's perception of something. Robbins and Judge (2015) say that the factors that influence perception can reside in the perceiver, in the object, or target, being perceived; or in the context of the situation in which the perception is made. For convenience in analysing and understanding, each role of those essential elements of perception, Robbin and Judge (2015) list them. These elements are:

1) The Perceiver

A perceiver is someone who perceives something. Following this research, the perceiver here is the students. When the students look at the target and attempt to interpret what they see, their interpretation is heavily influenced by their characteristics, such as

their attitudes, personality, motives, interest, experience, and expectation which can influence their perception of English.

2) The target

Target is the object being perceived. Characteristics of the target also affect what we perceive. Concerning the title of this research, the target is E-learning used by students to learn English. It means that the e-learning's characteristics also affect the way the students have their perception.

3) The Context of Situation

The time at which we see an object or event can influence our attention, as can location, light, heat, or any number of situational factors. In this case, the situation is pandemic COVID 19 which requires students to study from home. If the activity in an online class is comfortable, conducive, and accessible, etc., the students will have a good perception of the use of e-learning in English class during the pandemic.

c. Indicator of perceptions

An individual not receiving one stimulus from the outside but rather many stimuli appear in the environment. But not all stimuli get the attention of the individual and then are assessed or perceived. According to Bimo Walgito (2010: 54 -55), perception has indicators as follows:

1) Absorption of stimuli or objects from outside the individual.

Stimuli or objects are received and absorbed by the five senses themselves-alone or together. The results of absorption by the five senses will provide a picture, response, or impression inside the brain.

2) Understanding of the object.

The process occurs in the brain, then the result is organized, classified, and interpreted so that formed an understanding of an object.

3) Individual assessment or evaluation of objects.

After forming an understanding of the object then formed an assessment of the individual. Individuals compare that understanding just obtained by the criteria or norms that the individual has subjectively. Individual judgments vary despite the object same. Therefore, perception is individual.

2. Language Learning

a. Learning the English language

Learning is a person's lifelong process of knowing something new, such as knowledge, behavior, skills, and preferences. Schunk (2012:3) defined learning as a process that results in long-lasting behavioral change, which from practice or other forms of experience naturally produces a variety of behaviors in certain ways and certain capacities. Besides, Schunk (2012:346) also sees that student learning

begins with the knowledge and skills brought to the situation, which is developed and refined as one of the learning functions.

Language is our significant source of communication. It's the way through which we share our ideas, feelings, views, and thoughts with others (Nishanthi, 2018:871). The English language is an international language, which is used by all of the countries in the world for communication, It is in line with Nishanthi (2018:871) stated that the English language has been learned by almost all people in this world. One billion people worldwide speak English on top of this 67 countries have English as their official language and 27 countries have English as their second official language.

b. The importance of learning the English language

In this era, learning the English language is important because English is an international language, and as students, we have to master the language so that we can compete with other countries in some aspect of life, in line with Oroujlo and Vahedi (2011:994) who stated that language, especially English, is accepted as the key to success in life if fluency in English is well mastered. English is an important instrument in fields including scientific communication, business, cultural exchange, political matters, etc.

Besides Crystal (2003) as quoted in Sari (2019:31) suggests that English important in particular because of the extent of the role it plays in the following areas:

- 1) Economics and business: The USA's position as the world's number one economy exerts a pull on global business. Organizations that wish to do enter the international market are not likely to be able to do so without using English. The tourist industry, in particular, is dependent on English, but any multinational business with international offices must have staffs who can work in English.
- 2) International relations: English is one of the official languages of the United Nations and other key international bodies. Diplomats may learn several languages during their careers, but when it proves impossible to learn the language of a country, and then English may be used as a lingua franca.
- 3) The media: The world of current information and popular culture: A significant proportion (57%) of the world's newspapers is published in countries where English has a special status. The majority of major advertising agencies are US-owned. English dominates global television and radio broadcasting.
- 4) Education: A large proportion of the scientific papers published in all subjects are in English. English is also increasingly used as a medium of instruction in schools and universities, with subjects such as management, information technology, and the humanities making

particular use of English. English is also taught widely as a foreign language for students intending either further study in an English-speaking country or as a requirement for employment.

- 5) Communications: Much of the world's communications are done in English. 80% of the world's electronically stored information is in English.
- 6) International travel and safety: English is the language used for navigation at sea and air traffic control.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that learning will provide experience through the skills and knowledge received during the learning process, and learning English is one of the keys to success because of its importance in various aspects of life.

3. E-learning

a. Definition of E-Learning

In this pandemic situation, e-learning is used as an alternative way of teaching-learning activity. The letter "e" in e-learning means "electronic", e-learning can combine all educational activities carried out by individuals or groups working online or offline, through networked or independent computers and other electronics. Naidu (2006:1) stated that E-Learning is a teaching and learning system that uses information and communication technology. Furthermore, Indrakusuma and Putri (2016:2) stated that E-Learning is an abbreviation of electronic learning which is one of the new ways in the teaching and learning process and

uses electronic media specifically the internet as a learning system. 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 (Suartama, 2014:20).

From the explanation of the experts above it can be concluded that E-Learning is a teaching and learning system that utilizes electronic media specifically the internet. This model of learning system makes it easy for teachers and students because learning can be carried out anytime and anywhere.

b. Characteristics of E-Learning

All of the learning tools have different characteristics including E-learning as an online platform for learning also has characteristic as stated by Rudi and Riyana (2007) as quoted in Indrakusuma and Putri (2016:5) there are four characteristics of E-Learning which are explained as follows:

- 1) The attractiveness of students to learning material does not depend on the instructor/learner, because students construct their knowledge through teaching materials delivered through the website interface.
- 2) Sources of knowledge are everywhere and can be easily accessed by everyone. This is due to the globalized nature of Internet media and can be accessed by anyone who is connected to it.

- 3) Learners/educational institutions function as mediators/mentors.
- 4) Obtained from a restructuring of education system policies, curriculum, and management that can support the application of Information and Communication Technology for education optimally.

c. Advantages and Disadvantages of E-Learning

In this situation, educational institutions are looking toward online learning platforms to continue with the process of educating students, however, as with most teaching methods, online learning has its own set of positives and negatives. By knowing these advantages and disadvantages will help institutes in creating strategies for more efficiently delivering the lessons, here the advantages and disadvantages of e-learning:

1) Advantages of E-Learning

There are advantages from the application of E-Learning according to L. Tjokro (2009) as quoted in Indrakusuma and Putri (2016:7) as follows:

- a) Easier to absorb, meaning that in learning E-Learning can use multimedia facilities in the form of an image, text, animation, sound, and also video.
- b) Much more cost-effective, meaning that in learning E-Learning does not need an instructor, there is also no need for a minimum audience, it can be anywhere, and so on.

- c) Much more concise, meaning that in learning E-Learning does not contain many class formalities, directly into a subject, subjects as needed.
- d) Available 24 hours per day, meaning that mastery in the material depends on the enthusiasm and also the absorption of students, can be monitored, can be tested by e-test.

d. Disadvantages of E-Learning

There are disadvantages from the application of E-Learning according to Nursalam (2008) as quoted in Indrakusuma and Putri (2016:7) as follows:

- 1) Lack of interaction between teacher and student or even between students themselves.
- 2) This tendency can ignore the academic aspects or also social aspects and also otherwise make the growth of a business or commercial aspects.
- 3) The teaching and learning process tends towards training rather than education itself.
- 4) The change in the role of the teacher from initially mastering conventional learning techniques is now also required to be able to know learning techniques using ICT (information, communication, and technology).
- 5) Not all internet facilities are available at all places.
- 6) Lack of a human resource that understands the internet.

- 7) Lack of mastery in computer language.
- 8) Access to an adequate computer can be a problem for students themselves.
- 9) Students may be frustrated if they cannot access graphics, images, and videos due to inadequate equipment (software and hardware).
- 10) Availability of an infrastructure that can be fulfilled.
- 11) The information varies in quality and accuracy so guidelines and feature questions are needed.
- 12) Students can feel isolated.

e. Benefits of E-Learning

The benefits of online learning according to Siahaan (2003) online learning can be seen from 2 points, namely:

- 1) From the student's point of view

Online learning allows the development of a high degree of learning flexibility. Students can access learning materials at any time and repeatedly. Students can communicate with the lecturer at any time so that students can strengthen their mastery of the learning material.

- 2) From the lecturer's point of view:

- a) It is easier to update the learning materials that are his responsibility following the demands of scientific developments that occur

- b) develop themselves or do research to increase their horizons because they have relatively a lot of free time
- c) control student activities
- d) check and monitor whether students have done assignments or exercises after studying certain materials
- e) check student answers and notify the results to students

4. COVID 19 Pandemic

Indonesia is one of the countries affected by Covid-19. The covid-19 outbreak was discovered in Indonesia and started to become a serious problem for the first time since March 2, 2020. Zu et al. (2020) stated that in December 2019, an outbreak of coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infections was a severe acute respiratory infection that occurred in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, and spread throughout China and beyond. On February 12, 2020, WHO officially referred to the disease caused by the novel coronavirus as Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). 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) (Directorate General of Disease Prevention and Control, 2020:11).

The development of COVID 19 according to the World Health Organization (WHO) as of 01 March 2021, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has reported 1.341.314 persons with confirmed COVID-19. There have been 36.325 deaths related to COVID-19 reported and 1.151.915 patients have recovered from the disease. WHO is working with the

Indonesian Government to monitor the situation and prevent the further spread of diseases.

B. Previous Study

Two previous studies were found to have similar topics. However, each has its target to achieve, in completing the projects they all used e-learning in education. Those two, previous studies are as the following:

For the first, a previous study was done by Nopa et al (2019) which conducted a study entitled “investigation of students’ perception toward e-learning in the fifth semester of English language education UNDIKSHA”. The study aims to investigate students' perceptions of e-learning. The research was conducted to determine students' perceptions of the use of information technology as learning tools, especially e-learning in classroom learning. The research data were collected at the English Language Education of UNDIKSHA with 80 questionnaires. The outcomes of the study showed the majority of the students think e-learning is an innovative idea and must be encouraged. Hybrid learning, which is a combination of online learning and face-to-face learning, is the preferred mode of learning for the respondents.

Besides, the difference from the first previous study is the situation. The previous study was conducted when there was no pandemic while in this research after the pandemic widespread and become an epidemic in Indonesia so that E-Learning is the only option to continue learning activities.

The last previous study from Kumalawati et al (2020) conducted a study about geography students' perception of online learning systems in Covid 19 pandemic conditions. The population in the study was 88 students of the Geographic Study Program at Lambung Mangkurat University. Data processing by way of classifying the results of the questionnaire, and calculated the percentage then data were collected by survey method and analyzed using Rank Spearman's nonparametric statistical method. The findings of the study were to determine the Geography Student's Perception of the Online Learning System so that it could be used to overcome learning problems in the Covid-19 pandemic conditions. The results showed the Geography Student's Perception of Online Learning System in Covid-19 Pandemic Conditions for Hydrological subjects was low while the Meteorology Climatology course was moderate. Students' skills in using the internet in Geography students for the Climatology and Hydrology Meteorology courses are at a moderate level. The implementation of the online learning system must be supported by all students and all parties. The online learning system is expected to be one of the solutions in learning in the Covid-19 pandemic conditions, to reduce the spread of Covid-19.