# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of the key terms.

## A. Background of the Study

Along with the developing of technologies in the world, internet to be the one of the technology that becomes the major unit in many aspects. Many people including the students use the internet in their daily activities. Internet supplies many information and it makes the internet important for the students. In the early 1990s, the growth of the internet increase in many subjects such as science, business, etc.[1] Nowadays, it is common to see everyone uses the internet when learn something or entertain themselves. Almost all people who follow the development of technologies use the internet in their daily activities including for learning.

Today, integrating internet as an important instrument is one of the ways in developing knowledge and society. It has a great influence on academic and non-academic environments for the students. In recent years, there has been big support for using internet in many aspects such

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[1] Rana Najjari & Gholam-Reza Abbasian, "Perceptions and Attitudes towards Integrating Internet in EFL Instruction in Iran", *English Language Teaching,* Vol. 2, No. 4, (2015), 78.

as in learning English as a second language. In the last two decades, internet has been growing quickly and bring the crucial role in English language. In that term, the internet has come into use by students to improve their English skill and entertain themselves. Using the internet in the universities may give them positive value and efficient consequences. Many students of universities around the world are also using internet for educational purposes for easy and effective learning.[2]

On the other hand, the students also spent many times in using internet to make a fast develop and support their knowledge in academic and non-academic purposes. As we know that many students use the internet when they are doing their assignment, when they are searching for scholarship in local or international, or for others educational purposes. Besides, the internet also provides much information and resources about anything, so that the internet always exists as the developing of the technology. According to Dryli & Kinnaman in 1996, internet enable students to find out the information, make them think critically and creatively, being cooperative and collaborative and solve problems. Dryli & Kinnaman in their study stated that internet in education has some functions such as warehouse of information, communication without boundaries, online interactive learning,

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[2] Salih Usun, "Undergraduate Students Attitudes towards Educational Uses of Internet", *Interactive Educational Multimedia,* No. 7, (2003), 47.

electronic or online research, new innovation in the world, improve learning's interest, global education, and information catalogues.[3]

There are some previous studies about English students' perception of using internet. One of them is the study of Tella in 2007, she found that the internet allows the students to develop their academic experiences, to search for accessibility important resources, and communicate others in the academic community.[4] In education aspects, that is in the universities, the students use the internet when information seeking and when completing the tests. In non-education aspects, that is in their spare time, they use the internet to chat with friends, play online games, online shopping, electronic magazines and newspaper, and the activities related with fan fiction for example using published material to create pictures and films etc.[5]

Based on the highlight above, there are some researches discussed about English department students' perception of internet use in Iran, Malaysia, Jordanian, or other non-English speaking country. English department students use the internet to develop their English skill such as for developing speaking skills through chat and developing writing

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[3] Balakrishnan Muniandy, "Academic Use of Internet among Undergraduate Students: A Preliminary Case Study in a Malaysian University*", International Journal of Cyber Society and Education,* Vol. 3, No. 2, (2010), 173.

[4] Tella Adeyinka, "University of Botswana Undergraduates Uses of the Internet: Implications on Academic Performance", *Journal of Educational Media and Library Science,* Vol. 45 No. 2, (2007), 164.

[5] Camilla Brandstorm, "Using the Internet in Education – Strengths and Weaknesses", *Akademin for Utbildning Och Ekonomi"* (2011), 5.

skills through writing reports.[6] However, it is being seldom to be conducted in Indonesia especially at STAIN Kediri. Year by year, internet users including English department students increase. Since the significant number of internet users in Indonesia increase, Indonesia English department students should be aware about the latest update of technologies in the world. This awareness of Indonesia English department students can influence for the improvements of students in academic and non-academic aspects. So that, with knowing the developments of technologies in the world, the students can take advantages from the internet to improve their ability in academic and non-academic aspects. So that, this research tried to investigate English department students' perception and time spent of using internet.

## B. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher stated the problems of the study as follows:

1. What are the perceptions of English department students of STAIN Kediri on the use of internet for doing course assignments?

2. How long do English department students of STAIN Kediri usually spend their time in using internet for academic and non-academic purposes?

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[6] Abdallah Ahmad Baniabdelrahman, Ruba Fahmi Bataineh, & Rula Fahmi Bataineh, *"An Exploratory Study of Jordanian EFL Students' Perceptions of Their Use of the Internet"*, Teaching English with Technology, Vol. 7, No. 3 (2007), 10.

## C. Objectives of the Study

After the researcher states the problems of the study, this study done under the following purposes:

1. To know the perceptions of English department students of STAIN Kediri on the use of internet for doing course assignments

2. To know the time of English department students of STAIN Kediri spend in using internet for academic and non-academic purposes

## D. Significance of the Study

This study which focused in English department students' perception is expected to be useful for the students, for the teachers or lecturers and other researchers. By knowing the other perception, the English department students and teachers or lecturers hopefully start to implement for using internet in their courses. They also can take the advantages from the developments of internet in the world, so they can improve their English skill through the internet. The students and lecturers also can explore the new knowledge through the internet, it can be academic or non-academic aspects. Hopefully, this study can be useful study for other researchers that research about the same area with this study. For the other researchers, this study hopefully can be valuable research and can be reference for others.

**E. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

This study focused on investigating the English department students' perception of using internet. The researcher limits this study on the 100 sixth semester students of English department at STAIN Kediri. The researcher examines sixth semester students of English department because in sixth semester some assignments of the subjects such as Discourse Analysis and Second Language Acquisition are required them to make a mini research. So that, they may use internet to finish their assignments. The researcher used a questionnaire adapted from Shin & Son's questionnaire to explore the students' perception of using the internet and time spend in their use for internet in academic and non-academic purposes.

**F. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding in some terms used this study, the researcher will underline some terms frequently used in this research as follows:

1. Perception

Perception is a person's interpretation of something. According to Slavin, perception is influenced by our mental state, past experience, knowledge, motivations, and many other factors. Perception based on Merriam-Webster dictionary means 'the way you think about or understand someone or something.'[7] Perception

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[7] "perception", *Merriam-Webster,* http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/perception, 1996, accessed on Des 4, 2016, 9.32 A.M.

is also defined as our sensory experience of the world around us and involves both the recognition of environmental stimuli in response to these stimuli. So that, it can be interfered that perception is a way of seeing or understanding something.

2. Internet

The internet is the global system of computer networks which interconnected and linked by the internet protocol suite (TCP/IP) in devices worldwide.[8] It can be called as a network of networks consisted of local to global scope of private, public, academic, business, and government networks, linked by an electronic's broad array, wireless, and optical networking technologies. In internet, there is an extensive range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents and applications of the World Wide Web (WWW), E-mail, chatting, mailing list, newsgroup, and peer-to-peer networks for file sharing.

3. English Department Students

English department students are also known as English Language Learner and abbreviated as ELL. In Wikipedia, ELL is a person who is learning English and they are non-native English speakers in formal place such as schools, universities, or informal place such as an English community outside class or universities.[9]

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[8] "internet", *Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia,* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet accessed on 4 Des 2016, 9.23 A.M.

[9] "English Language Learner", *Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia,* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English-language_learner accessed on April 4, 2017.

ELLs also identified as students that do not come from English native speakers background but they are be able to use English orally in communication with others and can learn through English language. Sometimes, they need specialized instruction in both English in general and in academic courses.[10] It could be concluded that English department students or English language learners are the students that do not come from English native speaker background but they are be able to communicate fluently or learn English as their second language effectively.

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[10] "English Language-Learner", *The Glossary of Education Reform,* http://edglossary.org/english-language-learner/, 2013, accessed on April 4, 2017.