

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discussed the overview of the research background. In addition, this chapter also discussed the research question, objective, significance, scope and limitation of the research, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of Study

English language proficiency is becoming increasingly important in this era of globalization, where English is a global communication tool that facilitates interaction and cooperation in various fields. English is a global language (Crystal, 1997:2). The only language that can be accepted and used internationally is English (Rao, 2019). Most of the information, research, and scientific works are available in English, which means it can provide wider access to global knowledge. Tsui and Tollefson once said, "If one wants to access science and technology, then one must have an understanding of the use of English". In this important context, a strong understanding of English is key to participating in an increasingly connected global world and an important aspect of career advancement and personal development. Therefore, efforts to improve English vocabulary have a significant impact on various aspects of one's life and career.

Vocabulary is inseparable when talking about English. Vocabulary is the total number of the words that make up a language (Thornbuy, 2002: 6). Vocabulary is a core component of language proficiency and provides much

of the basis for how well students speak, listen, read, and write (Richards & Renandya, 2002). Students will experience difficulties in English if their vocabulary is inadequate. Vocabulary serves to express ideas, feelings, and thoughts well; if the vocabulary is limited, it is possible that it will hamper one's communication skills. In their book, Schmite and McCarthy mention that vocabulary has an important role in English. Through their listening skills, learners will easily understand what others are talking about through the vocabulary they have. In speaking and writing skills, students will find it easy to develop their ideas. While improving reading skills, it makes it easier for students to understand texts.

To balance the demand for a good command of English, social media acts as an effective learning tool. According to KOMINFO data, 77% of the population in Indonesia are active internet users, or equivalent to 212.9 million people in January 2023. The development of social media currently makes it easy for people to view and find online information (Sari & Basit, 2020). Along with easy access to the internet, the development of social media is increasingly widespread among the community, from schoolchildren to adults. Therefore, there has been a major revolution in the realm of social media. The emergence of Facebook, X, Instagram, and other social media applications has various impacts on the lives of the younger generation.

One of the benefits offered to the world of education is that social media can be used as a learning medium in the teaching and learning process. There are many applications and websites that contain formulas and questions

to measure understanding after being exposed to material in the media. Social media also makes it very easy for students to find references that are related to the material given by lecturers during lectures. With social media, they are more independent and can be more active in conducting individual learning when outside the classroom. One of the social media sites that is very popular among students or young people is "X".

"X" is the new name of Twitter social media, starting in July 2023. It can be denied or not that "X" users become addicted when they use social media (Firdaus, 2020). They can find various friends from all over the world who can connect directly through the content written on "X". This social media, many students use it to find solutions or provide solutions to problems that occur, and it also becomes a forum for students' critical thinking aspirations (Pitaloka et al., 2021). In Winkler's (2012) statement, Twitter is a medium that can be applied to learning vocabulary in context. They can find words that occur in daily life on the "X" homepage, which makes it easier to remember new vocabulary than finding it in books.

Twitter is becoming increasingly popular in Indonesia, with auto-base accounts being a common feature. These accounts offer an auto direct message service where users can send DM (Direct Messages) to the account. These messages, known as "menfess," are later automatically posted as tweets by the account owner, who is referred to as the admin. The identity of the sender remains anonymous to other users, known only to the admin and the sender themselves.

In addition to the fact that auto-base accounts are frequently utilized, the researcher selected this topic since there are not many other studies that look at the usage of auto-base accounts as an English learning tool. One of the autobase accounts that is very popular for learning English is @englishfess_. This study is also motivated by the author's own experience, which shows that auto-base accounts are a good resource for learning English, especially the @englishfess_ account. We may use an auto-base account to ask questions and receive responses from a variety of sources.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher aims to investigate the students' experiences using the "X" Auto-Base Account @englishfess_ to learn English vocabulary, which covers the challenges students face during the learning process as well as the motivational factors that affect their involvement in the use of the platform. Therefore, the researcher chose the title “THE STUDENTS’ EXPERIENCES IN USING “X” AUTO-BASE ACCOUNT @ENGLISHFESS_ FOR LEARNING ENGLISH VOCABULARY”.

B. Research Questions

The problems of this research are formulated as follow:

- A. How do students perceive challenges in using X auto-base account @englishfess_ for learning English vocabulary?
- B. How do the students get motivated in using X auto-base account @englishfess_ for learning English vocabulary?

C. Research Objectives

Regarding the problem statement, the objectives of the research are:

- A. To know the students perceive challenges in using X auto-base account @englishfess_ for learning English vocabulary.
- B. To know the motivation that students get in using X auto-base account @englishfess_ for learning English vocabulary.

D. Scope and Limitations

Based on the background of this study, the scope of this study focuses on challenges and motivation of students in using X auto-base account. The limitations of this study only include vocabulary, not exploring skills that are components of the English language. This research only uses the "X" platform, not other social media platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, or Facebook.

E. Significance of Study

The researcher hopes that the result of this research will be beneficial both theoretical and practical.

a. For a students

The researcher hopes that through this research, the readers will gain new knowledge about how to learn English vocabulary from social media, especially from the X auto-base account, based on the students' experiences in using X auto-base account for learning English.

b. lecturer

It may be utilized as an alternate strategy that makes the teaching and learning process interesting and fun.

c. For next researchers

The results of this study can be a reference for future researchers who want to innovate learning strategies to overcome obstacles in the teaching and learning process.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Learning Experience

According to Sanjaya (2008), learning experiences are a variety of student activities carried out to obtain new knowledge and competencies in accordance with the learning objectives to be achieved.

2. X

“X” is the new name of Twitter, starting on July 23, Elon Musk as the owner announced on his Twitter account in the form of a short video. “X” is a micro blogging service that allows users to share text messages (with a character limit of 500), images, and videos in a format called post, which can be liked, commented on, reposted, or shared with others. Users

can follow other users' accounts, address other users directly by mentioning them with the symbol "@", and send direct messages.

3. Auto-base Account

An account that posts tweets based on data given via the DM (Direct Message) account is referred to as "autobase" on Twitter. Users are allowed to contribute content consistent with the autobase type as long as the guidelines and format are followed correctly. Next, the autobase account will post the tweet without identifying whose account sent the data. Furthermore, an autobase account can be a forum discussion to discuss everything based on the types of the autobase account. In this research, @englishfess_ was chosen as autobase account to analyze the students' experience in learning English vocabulary using this account.

4. Vocabulary

According to Oxford Dictionary (2008: 495), vocabulary refers to all the words a person is common as well. Coxhead (2006) argues that a key component of language is vocabulary. Students can communicate more effectively in a wide range of situations the more vocabulary they are common as well as adept at using. According to Hornby (1995: 1331), vocabulary is both a list of terms with their definitions and the total quantity of words in a language. According to the definition given above, vocabulary is a group of words that establish a specific language and are used to structure sentences.