

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the explanation about the topic such as the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, the limitation of the study, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Nowadays, the whole world, especially in Indonesia, is experiencing a pandemic caused by the corona virus (Covid-19). A pandemic is an epidemic that is occurring at the same time in many countries around the world (Roxby, 2020). This situation has affected multiple sectors, also including education. During the pandemic of Covid-19, online learning has become a wide-spread concept of this year. According to Cakrawati (2017), Archambault, Wetzel, Foulger, and Williams stated that the use of social networking tools accommodates input between instructors and students and makes them more efficient and successful in communicating. Since social networking resources are easier to use, students may obtain immediate responses and feedback. To obtaining material that can be enriched or fitted with a variety of supporting learning materials, including multimedia that can be supported by teachers, the material given to students can be accessed at any time and from anywhere through Online learning (Suartama, 2014). Ghiardini (2011) also claimed that Online learning can provide one successful form of teaching, such as practicing with relevant input, customizing learning paths based on student

needs, integrating collaborative practices with independent research, and using simulations and games.

On the other hand, there is a program that implemented on first semester students at some campus. Because of the pandemic Covid-19, online learning is used for the aids in conveying the material. Intensive Course class also the program in English Department of IAIN Kediri. According to 2020 Academic Guidebook of IAIN Kediri (2020/2021), the intensive course class is a course program which is given for first semester students of English Department with 10 credits (SKS) or 170x10 minutes per week per semester (The time allocation for each 1 credit is 170 minutes per week per semester). And based on the students` Intensive English Course Book, IC is an integrative language program that purposed to improve the fluency of students in English in some basic aspects of language skills and components supported by mastery (The Team of Writers, 2020).

Therefore, the use of online learning must not be separated from the purpose of holding the intensive course class program itself. Providing the scope of online learning, separates online learning into two main areas, learning, and technology, where learning is the cognitive mechanism for knowledge achievement, and technology is the tool to help the process of knowledge achievement (Aparicio, Bacao, and Oliveira, T, 2016). However, Ryan's implementation of the use of technology may be different, such as the use of separate self-paced research units, asynchronous interactive sessions (where participants communicate at different times), or synchronous

interactive environments. Learning and technology implementation is better perceived from the perception of the students because they have direct knowledge of it (Smart and Cappel, 2006). As an example, the study conducted by (Armstrong, 2011) on the perceptions of online learning and teaching resources by students shows that students do not consider the inherent negative qualities of technology.

As the result, based on the theoretical above, the researcher decides to conduct a study entitle **“THE PERCEPTIONS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS ON USING ONLINE LEARNING IN INTENSIVE COURSE CLASS”**

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the statement of research problem is what are the perceptions of English Department students on using online learning in intensive course class?

C. Objectives of the Study

Considering the problem of the study above, the researcher has the objective of the study that to investigate the perceptions of English Department students on using online learning in intensive course class.

D. Significance of the Study

The researcher will give some useful information about the perceptions of English Department students on using online learning in intensive course class. Hopefully, the results of research are useful for the teacher, students and other researcher. The results will be used for the following:

a. Students

For students, this research will help them to express their feeling so far while studying using online learning as a learning tool at their department, especially in intensive course class.

b. English Teacher

This research can help the teacher to know what to improve, and it does also can help the teacher to understand every problem from the student on using online learning in intensive course class of English Department students.

c. Other Researcher

The result of this research can be used by other researcher as a reference and a source of information to conduct further research that is related to using Online learning in intensive course class.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This research focuses to investigating the perceptions of English Department students on using Online learning in intensive course class. The researcher uses questionnaires to find the data. The research is limited to focus students in first semester perceptions on the using Online learning as the media in intensive course class of English Department students.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid the misunderstanding of some terms used by researcher, the key terms are defined as follow,

a. Perception

Based on Robert E. Slavin (2006), perception is person interpretation of stimuli. Perception of stimuli is not a straightforward as reception of stimuli; rather, it is influenced by our mental state, past experience, knowledge, motivations and many other factors.

b. Online Learning

Electronic learning (Online learning), as any form of education that is facilitated by the internet and its technologies and encompasses the use of the Word Wide Web (www) to support instruction and to deliver course content (Masrom, 2007). According to Tsai & Macado (2002), the meanings of technical terms can be determined in many ways. Terms for new concepts are often derived intuitively from related concepts. Online learning and Web-based learning are examples of recent concepts that acquire their meanings from the related concepts of e-mail, Web, and learning. Other times, concepts are derived by shading their meanings with aggregated adjectives. Online learning and distance learning obtain their meanings this way, as doe's Web-based learning.

c. Intensive Course

According to 2020 Academic Guidebook of IAIN Kediri (2020/2021), the intensive course class is a course program which is given for first semester students of English Department with 10 credits (SKS) or 170x10 minutes (TThe time allocation for each 1 credit is 170 minutes per week per semester) per week per semester. And based on the

students` Intensive English Course Book, IC is an integrative language program that purposed to improve the fluency of students in English in some basic aspects of language skills and components supported by mastery (The Team of Writers, 2020).