CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In the introduction part, the researcher discusses the six terms of the subchapter of the study. Those are the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and limitation of the study, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Technology developed in this modern era. All circles use technology in carrying out various activities. Included in education, teachers, and students must be able to use technology to develop teaching and learning processes. The teaching and learning process using technology as a learning tool requires a Learning Management System (LMS). According to Watson & Watson, (2007) LMS is a digital teaching and learning platform for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, and delivery of curricula. Examples of LMS are Schoology, Quipper, Quizizz, and Google Classroom.

A study conducted by Iftakhar, (2016) mentioned that "Google Classroom is meant to help teachers manage the creation and collection of student assignments in a paperless environment, basically leveraging the framework of Google Docs, Drive and other apps. Google Classroom has features that are accessible to everyone. Also, this application can assist students in doing online learning with features that have been set up for various classes.

Google Classroom is currently widely used by teachers to support student learning during the pandemic. Learning during the Covid-19 pandemic was

carried out online. A study by Nabila (2020) found that distance or online learning is becoming one of the most widely embraced ways of a delivery program for many education sectors. Learning in a pandemic is not running optimally. Students must receive online lessons that are ineffective because they do not understand the material presented. This is because they do not learn and interact directly in class with the teacher. A study conducted by Negara (2018) investigated students have a strong perception that Google Classroom helps learning. Also, Agung., et al. (2020) investigated students at STKIP Pamane Talino have the perception that Google Classroom can be accessed quickly during the learning process.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, almost all schools in Indonesia implemented online learning. Starting from Elementary School to Senior High School implemented online learning. Almost all subjects such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, and sociology. One of the subjects that applies to online learning is English subject. Learning English online using Google Classroom is accessible to students and teachers because it is more effective and easy to use. Also, Google Classroom is more flexible, can be done anywhere and students do not have to be in school. A study conducted by Hamid., et al. (2015) found that students believed that they experienced greater interaction with the other students and their teacher when they used social technologies such as Google Classroom.

The online English classroom learning model has made perceptions among students. According to Ridho, D. M., Sawitri, I. D., & Amanatulloh, N. A. (2019)

in knowing the perception of students is very important because this also means for teachers or lecturers to evaluate the learning process. Students' perceptions are important to know so that they can become a consideration for teachers in using Google Classroom online learning media in English lessons. A study by Islam (2019: 8) found that 82 percent of learners said that it can easily be used anytime and anywhere either by mobile, laptop, or any other electronic gadgets having an internet connection.

Research conducted by Fikri (2020) found that Google Classroom also increases students' motivation because the students were easy to send the assignments and get the material. Google Classroom as an alternative for teachers and students in learning online. This application is specially designed for students to make the class more organized and flexible. Also, teachers can take advantage of the various features contained in this application, such as assignments, time-costs, grading, course archives, communication, mobile applications, and privacy. Google Classroom is an application that is widely used in every school for online learning.

Based on explanations above, we can see that almost all schools in Indonesia using Google Classroom. Schools used Google Classroom as an online learning platform to facilitate teaching and learning activities. One school that uses Google Classroom is SMAN 1 WATES. 35 teachers teach at this school. All teachers have used Google Classroom as an online learning platform. Previously, this application has been applied in schools to help teaching and learning activities. However, because currently there is a Covid-19 pandemic, full online

learning uses Google Classroom. The application of Google Classroom for full online learning will certainly make students bored and not interested in learning. The school uses Google Classroom to support learning, especially English subjects. Therefore, the researcher studied school to find out the students' perceptions towards the use of Google Classroom as an online learning platform in English learning.

Based on the theoretical above, the researcher decides to conduct a study entitled " ***STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS THE USE OF GOOGLE CLASSROOM AS ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORMS***".

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the statement of the research problem as follows:

"What are the students' perceptions towards the use of Google Classroom as online learning platform in English subjects?"

C. Objectives of the Study

Considering the problem of the study above, the researcher has an objective of the study:

"To investigate the students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom as online learning platform in English Subjects."

D. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give a contribution to the teacher, students, and the researcher:

1. For the teacher

The research finding of this study is expected to be useful for the teacher. Teachers can help students to carry out the English learning process by using Google Classroom.

2. For the students

The research finding of this study is expected to be useful for the students to gain knowledge about the use of Google Classroom as an online learning platform for English subjects.

3. For the next researcher

This study is expected to provide research and new information about students' perceptions of using Google Classroom as an online learning platform for English subjects.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study focuses on investigating the students' perceptions toward the use of Google Classroom in English subjects of the Students in SMAN 1 WATES. The researcher uses questionnaires and interviews as an instrument to find the data. The research is focused on tenth-grade students. The researcher makes observations, interviews, and distributes questionnaires. The researcher observes the school that is used as a research location.

The chosen SMAN 1 WATES, because this school has implemented Google Classroom as a platform for online learning in English. There are twelve classes in tenth grade wich each class consist of 36 students. There are several English teachers at the school, and the researcher appointed one teacher who uses

Google Classroom for the English teaching and learning process. The researcher conducts interviews with students to find out what are problems with using Google Classroom as an online learning platform for English.

F. Definition of Key Terms.

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

1. Perception

Perceptions are the process of individual treatment that is giving responses, meanings, images, or interpretations of what is seen, heard, or felt by the senses in the form of attitudes, opinions, and behavior or referred to as individual behavior.

2. Google Classroom

Google Classroom is a product from Google for education that very special because it has a lot of facilities in it, such as giving announcements or assignments, collect assignments and check the assignment. Google Classroom has features that can help teachers and students learn online.

a. Google Classroom application is connected to Google Drive, making it easier for students to receive and send assignments

b. Google Classroom application can help teachers provide announcements and schedules in class

c. The Google Classroom application can help students communicate in online classes.

3. English Subject

The process of learning English between teachers and students creates interactions to develop student competencies according to the environment.