

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Recently the world was frightened by the outbreak of the Corona virus. The virus paralyzes various activities in various countries. Therefore, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) has announced the status of a global pandemic for corona virus 2019 or also called Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19). WHO's Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that the disease was no longer just a public health crisis, but a crisis that touched all aspects of humanity (WHO, 2020). Therefore, everyone must help stop the spread of the virus. In health term, a pandemic means an outbreak of a disease that attacks many victims simultaneously in various countries (WHO, 2008).

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is not only impacting the health sector, but also has a large impact on the economy. Sri Mulyani as cited from (CNN- Indonesia, 2020) claimed to formulate economic measures to reduce the impact of the corona virus, and based on the budget of 2020, then the refocusing and reallocate steps will be in accordance with the presidential decree IV/2020. Covid-19 is also impacting the education 2 system in Indonesia. The results of the decision of the Minister of Education that all learning activities both in schools and colleges are carried out at home through the available applications. The Minister of Education issued

the Circular Number 3 Year 2020 on the Prevention of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) in the Education Unit which stated that it closed schools and colleges. The education sector involves many physical activities, such as face-to-face meetings in class, academic guidance processes, formal meetings at seminar forums etc. These routine activities must be temporarily canceled. This was done to break the chain of distribution of COVID-19. Instead, learning activities are carried out online for all levels of education.

Various educational institutions have now begun to utilize technology and apply online learning systems to support learning activities. Hartanto (2016) states that the form of development of information technology that can be utilized as a learning medium is to use e-learning. E-learning is information and communication technology to enable students to learn whenever and wherever (Dahiya in Hartanto, 2016). This e-learning application can facilitate learning activities formally and informally by using electronic media, such as the internet, intranet, CD-ROM, video, DVD, television, cellphone, PDA, etc. (Darmawan in Pratiwi, 2020).

This online class is conducted where in the process of teaching and learning activities between lectures and students do not need to attend the classrooms. This method only relies on gadgets and internet connection to conduct teaching and learn activities, and the process can be done from different places. Because of the ease and practicality, online learning was chosen by various educational institutions to support the learning activities during the Covid-19 pandemic. Based on Novak (in Balaji, Al-Mahri, & Malathi, 2016) using E-learning, the interactivity and efficiency of learning increased as it gives the learners higher potential to communicate more with their instructors, other learners and to access more learning materials.

Previous studies have shown that the use of E-learning has a positive impact. Saifuddin (2017) on his research entitled “E-Learning Dalam Persepsi Mahasiswa” showed e-learning are beneficial, can improve motivation, make it easier to understand the material and help the readiness in the lecture. Vitoria (2018) on her research entitled “Students’ perceptions on the implementation of e-learning: Helpful or unhelpful?”. The result showed that the students perceived the e-learning web-based module to be useful in improving their understanding, independence, self-discipline, motivation to learn, and interactions with each other and with the teacher.

Some educational institutions in Kediri City are very responsive in handling this pandemic and taking steps to prevent the spread of Covid-19. One of those steps is changing the learning method. The learning process that was previously done face-to-face in the classroom changed to an online learning system. However, with online learning both lecturers and students 4 are still able to carry out their duties and responsibilities while still paying attention to social distancing and physical distancing policies. Through several applications, lecturers at some educational institutions in Kediri City continue the teaching process and interact with students with online methods, both assignments, discussions, and learning process. The transition in this learning method certainly raises various perceptions among students. This perception is important to know because it can be an input to lectures/teachers and educational institutions so that online learning continues to run optimally during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Based on the background above, the researcher is conducting research entitled “Perceptions of English Department Students of IAIN Kediri on the Use E-learning in English Learning”.

B. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the statement of the problems as follows: what are the perceptions of English Department Students of IAIN Kediri on the use e-learning in English learning?

C. The Objective of the Study

Related to the statement of the problem, the objective of the study is to identify and describe perceptions of English Department Students of IAIN Kediri on the use e-learning in English learning.

D. The Significance of the Study

The researcher selected the study above because, it will give advantages, as mentioned below:

1. The Teachers and Lectures

The teachers or lecturers might know their students' perception of using E-Learning during the pandemic. It will be an input to them to make the teaching and learning process run optimally.

2. The Students

Through this research, students are expected to be able to understand the new way of learning using technology. It also makes the students know the advantages and the ease of using technology in E-learning. The use of E-Learning can make students know the new way of doing assignments, discussions, and interactions via online.

3. The next researcher

The next researcher will get information about what the perceptions of the students of using E-learning are. It will also give

advantages to another researcher who takes the same topic to use this research results as a reference in conducting the research.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study attempts to describe the perception of using E-Learning. This study focuses on investigating students' perception of using E-Learning. This study was limited to the 2nd semester students of the English Department of IAIN Kediri who had taken the E-Learning as the way of teaching and learning process.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

The researcher makes the definition on the key term to read and understand this study clearly. It is to avoid misunderstanding and misconception from the researcher to the reader. The definition of the key terms are:

1. Perception

Perception is someone's response about something that is reflected in attitudes, actions and thought based on experience and feeling.

2. E-Learning

E-Learning or Online learning is the teaching and learning process that use gadgets (computer, laptop, smartphone, etc.) and internet connection. Through E-learning, the students and the teacher do not need to attend in the class.