The Integration of Facebook to Make Teaching and Learning Writing Skill in EFL More Entertaining

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**Abstract**

The students as EFL learners have difficulty in improving their writing skills. Students are less enthusiastic in compiling their writings, and they also have difficulty in it. Several factors, such as students cause this are less interested in English and less understanding vocabulary and grammar. This study analyzes that Facebook can be used as a more entertaining way of teaching and learning EFL writing skills. This research is library research. This study collects data by analyzing data information. Social networking sites (SNS) in this study use Facebook. The results showed that Facebook was able to encourage student participation and achievement in language learning. There are several steps in implementing Facebook as a more entertaining way of learning to teach EFL writing skills, such as having a Facebook account, online classes on Facebook, assignments or assignments on Facebook, sharing ideas, an

Introduction

Writing is a form of communication which allows the students to put their feelings and ideas on paper or to organize their knowledge and beliefs into well-constructed text which has meaning (Christian, 2013; Darnis, 2018; Warsihna, 2016). Students having ability in writing English is significant in this globalization era. Therefore, it is highly needed to provide students with English writing skill in order to help them become more competitive (Fu, Lin, Hwang, & Zhang, 2019; Szanto, 2020). Writing skill and reading skill had an essential place in individuals’ social life as well as in school learning (Desimyari, Putra, & Manuaba, 2018; Nuzulia, 2016; Widayanti, Sutama, & Wisudariani, 2019). Writing in English often called as the most complex skills from other skills like speaking, listening, and reading (Naghdipour, 2021; Sun, Wang, Lambert, & Liu, 2021). It is also believed as the most difficult skills.
The students as the EFL learners are having difficulties in improving their writing skills due to the complexity and difficulty of the writing skills itself (Karaca & Uysal, 2021; Wong & Russak, 2020). EFL learners need to consider several aspects in writing skills. For instance, they need to consider about the topic, the function of the text, grammar, punctuation, etc. The method or the strategy used by their teacher also becomes a problem here. It means that the teacher should make an innovation of their method in teaching writing skills (Dewi, Kristiantari, & Ganing, 2019). Students in Indonesia are having those problems and it became significant obstacles for them in writing English (Masrur, Irawati, & Sulistyo, 2020; Musa, 2019). The writing process is stressful and difficult as students in Indonesia have assumed (Yuniar, Widiati, & Astuti, 2019). Students were unenthusiastic in constructing their writings and they also have troubles in it. It was due to several factors like students lacking interest in English, students lacking in vocabulary and grammar understanding, their teacher applied monotonic teaching technique in teaching them, and lacking of instructional media (Musa, 2014; Yusnidar, 2014).

In this 21st century era, the implementation of Information and Technology (IT) is needed (Y. Chen, Mayall, York, & Smith, 2019; Ozturk, B.K, and Degiztanlioglu, 2018). Several educational researchers and teaching experts have acknowledged that the application of computer technology can give advantages to language teaching and learning. Amongst numerous applications, computer-mediated communication (CMC) permits the learners to participate in and form a learning community in order to construct knowledge and develop relationship in an online collaborative setting (Chen & Tsai, 2021; Ozdamli & Asiksoy, 2016). Online classroom can be conducted by implementing IT in the teaching and learning activity (Kurtz, Tsimerman, & Steiner, 2014; Soni et al., 2018). The implementation of IT in EFL teaching and learning is needed in this 21st century. Social media can also use as a platform for teaching and learning activity especially for writing skill (Setyowati & Hamidah, 2014; Yuniar et al., 2019). For instance, a social media platform named Facebook. Thus, the teacher or the learners need to know about how to integrate social networking site into a classroom where teaching and learning activity happen.

Nowadays, there are so many platform can be used as an online classroom (Arifuddin, Suwatra, & Mahadewi, 2020; Hignasari & Supriadi, 2020). Social media or social networking site (SNS) can also be used as a platform for making an online classroom. Facebook as one of the biggest and popular social networking site is able to use as an online classroom (Hartono, 2014; Zarzour, Bendjaballah, & Harirche, 2020). It has a powerful social function and it can be access easily. It makes Facebook can be used in EFL teaching and learning to explore and strengthen relationships with others and build learning communities. The students’ enthusiasm to learn due to the use of Facebook’s group which make the learning process enjoyable (Moorthy et al., 2019; Sirivedin, Soopunyo, Srisuantang, & Wongsothorn, 2018). Online classroom allows the learners to practice and use target languages whether they are inside or outside the class. They can access it anywhere and anytime. In the learning process with the use of SNS, it is able to increase the interaction among students and it also decreasing language barriers and social inhibitions. Social media has great potential in engaging learning in the curricular context (Hosen et al., 2021; Jogezai et al., 2021). Facebook as a widely used SNS has a potential in fostering language learners’ awareness of sociopragmatic (Rap & Blonder, 2017). It can be interpreted that Facebook has been regarded as the facilitative platform for language learning. This study aims to analyze the social media Facebook that can be used in the learning process. It is hoped that Facebook can be used in the learning process.
Methods

This research uses a qualitative approach by applying library research methods. Literature-based research is a form of research that uses literature as an object of study. This approach is very suitable for Indonesian conditions because there are still limited companies that implement it. The data used in this research are secondary data, namely books, magazines and written documents. In addition, articles taken from educational journals are also used. In order to consider the use of social media platform in EFL context, this research attempts to explain why Facebook can be used as a more entertaining way in EFL teaching and learning writing skill. The aim is to provide an additional discourse on the use of Facebook as an educational tool in EFL, especially in teaching and learning writing skill.

Results and Discussion

In order to implement Facebook in EFL teaching and learning writing skill, there are several steps include: 1) Having Facebook account. Teacher and students must have an account in order to use Facebook; 2) An online classroom in Facebook. Teacher will created an online classroom by using Facebook and after that students will join the classroom. In the online classroom, teacher provides sources and assignment related to the topic that will be discussed. For example, the students are 11 grader and they will learn about Opinion and Idea; 3) Assignment or task in Facebook. Teacher will provided assignment or task for students related to the topic that will be discussed. Teacher will post an assignment about Opinion and Idea in Facebook. Teacher posted 5 hot topics that discussed nowadays by global society as the assignment Students are asked to give their thought about the topics given by commenting on the post for each topic. Here, students need to show their writing skill in giving argument about the topics given; 4) Share Idea. Students can share their idea through commenting on one another answer in the post on Facebook. By doing online writing discussions on Facebook, it will help them to increase their writing skill. The difference between doing writing activity in normal classroom and online classroom using Facebook is that it will be more entertaining because they already used to be commenting on their friends’ posts or status in Facebook. Thus, they will become more enthusiastic to participate in the learning process. Students also able to increase their amount of target language contact and production by doing Facebook class discussion. Teacher also participated here; and 5) Feedback. It is easier for teacher to give feedback to all of the students. Teacher can give feedback to students by commenting on their works.

Writing as clearly, fluently, and effectively communication of ideas and emotions, thoughts, wishes and dreams which transfer using symbols effectively alongside with the grammar rules (Desimyari et al., 2018; Nuzulia, 2016). Thus, writing competency is the level of your understanding which achieved in regards to writing your own piece of text. Social networking service (SNS) refers as an online application which can be used to create relationships with other people around the world (Hosen et al., 2021; Lai & Tai, 2021). Social networking service may also know as social networking site and widely known as ‘social media’. The users of social networking service (SNS) are able to create their profile by putting their personal information, photos, etc. The users can also arrange connections with other people’s profiles. The ways the users can connecting with other people are by emailing, sharing, and commenting on other people’s accounts.

Social networking service or SNS has several characteristics include: a) Using the internet. Social networking service (SNS) needed the internet to operate; b) User-created content. The users are able to let other users know their activities, for instance, posting photos, videos, and status; c) Social networking service (SNS) has the ability in connecting individuals all over the world. Indeed, some platforms are recommending their users to know
each other in real life too before online connecting; d) It is free to use. The users are not charged any fees when they want to use social networking service; e) Able to connect the users with common histories like school attendance, people who share a common interest and also work colleagues; f) It may help people who share a business network to develop a relationship; and g) It can be used to help people find information, services, products, or resources which are relevant for them (Hosen et al., 2021; Jogezai et al., 2021). Facebook is a social networking site or SNS that the users can used to post comments, share photographs and post links to news or other interesting content available in the website. Facebook can also be used to do a chat live and watch short videos. Facebook is a popular social media website which make people able to interact with friends and loved ones from far away and around the world (Hartono, 2014; Zarzour et al., 2020). Facebook is a social media web application that used by millions people each day.

Social networking service or social media have become a crucial part of our personal and social life nowadays. It is necessary that the implementation of IT, in this case, social media is needed in the teaching and learning process. The opportunities of social media in supporting collaborative learning among students and they found that the popularity of social media such as Facebook amongst the education community, teacher and students are growing (Moorthy et al., 2019; Rap & Blonder, 2017). Several previous studies also indicated that the extensive usage of social network services (SNSs) in the students’ lives had the influence to their learning styles (Rap & Blonder, 2017). Facebook as a more entertaining way in EFL teaching and learning writing skill is appropriate to be integrated in this case. It is because teaching and learning process through Facebook can encourages the students to be more active than in the normal classroom. Several previous studies showed that Facebook is able to encourage students’ participation and investment in language learning (Alias, Manan, Yusof, & Pandian, 2012; Sirivedin et al., 2018). The way students use Facebook is determined the effect of using it on students’ academic achievement, especially in writing English. Based on previous study about the integrating of Facebook on teaching and learning process, it has a positive effect toward students’ achievement. Facebook as educational purposes for students like gathering information, checking their friends’ activities and information sharing through links is resulted in a positive outcome better then when they used it only for socializing (Hartono, 2014; Moorthy et al., 2019). Students are also able to use Facebook to visit their teacher’s website or other academic websites.

Facebook can be implemented in the classroom in order to teach and learn writing skill. By making an online classroom using Facebook as the platform, teacher can teach their students about writing skill and students can learn from it (Smutny & Schreiberova, 2020; Zarzour et al., 2020). Facebook improve language learning and facilitates language teaching as the students were more engaged with learning and their investment in the second language increased as they were sharing their work with their Facebook friends. The learners learned vocabulary way more-better when using mobile devices in a context of teaching environment. It was also stated that young learners have a tendency to learn vocabulary in five stages. Those stages were: 1) encountering; 2) getting; 3) comprehending; 4) consolidating; 5) using. Thus, online classroom by using Facebook has benefit as teacher and students can access it not only in the classroom but also outside the classroom. Teaching and learning process can happen anytime or anywhere, as long as the internet network is available (Awidi, Paynter, & Vujosevic, 2019; Kim & Harwood, 2020). Facebook becomes a more entertaining way for teaching and learning process. Implementing Facebook as a more entertaining way in EFL teaching and learning writing skill is giving positive outcome for students’ academic achievement. There are several steps in implementing Facebook as a more entertaining way in EFL teaching and learning writing skill such as having Facebook account, online classroom in Facebook, assignment or task in Facebook, share idea, and feedback.
Conclusion

Conclusively, implementing Facebook as a more entertaining way in EFL teaching and learning writing skill is a suitable strategy to be used in increasing students’ skill in writing English and also suitable for this globalization era in which teaching and learning process should integrate IT.

References


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