Students’ Perception on The Use of Google Classroom in English Online Learning At A Rural Junior High School

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ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the learning process initially done in class to turn into online learning. It causes teachers to need media to support online learning. The current problem is the limited student network due to geographical conditions. The students were also confused about operating Google Classroom under certain conditions due to a lack of knowledge about using the pedagogical platform. This study aimed to analyze students’ perceptions of the use of google classroom in online English learning in rural high schools. This research was designed using a qualitative study. Data was collected through 2 instruments, namely questionnaires and interviews. Then, Miles and Huberman’s theory is used in analyzing data where data analysis consists of four parts: data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing/verification. The study results are. First, students’ perceptions of Google Classroom as an online learning medium are categorized as positive. Second, the obstacles faced by students during the implementation of Google Classroom in online learning are limited interaction between students because students focus on interacting with teachers, and students consider Google Classroom ineffective because it cannot adapt to applications as seen from student responses when some of them do not understand about features in Google Classroom. Third, students have complaints when accessing Google Classroom where students cannot join classes because they do not have cellular data, which means they cannot access Google Classroom and cannot study online courses. Fourth, students are late submitting assignments because they are waiting for cellular and internet data. It can be concluded that the use of google classroom in learning experiences several obstacles, so it needs to be considered.

1. INTRODUCTION

COVID-19, which we know as the Coronavirus pandemic, has changed people’s lives in various sectors, including education. This COVID-19 was claimed as a world crisis on January 30, 2020, and a global pandemic on March 11, 2020, by the World Health Organization (W. Ali, 2020; Handayani et al., 2020; Prawiyogi et al., 2020; Yulia, 2020). For now, COVID-19 is still affecting several countries, especially Indonesia, and the number of confirmed deaths has reached nearly 4 million (Dhawan, 2020; Shah et al., 2020; Shodiq & Zainiyati, 2020). By knowing the dangers of the Coronavirus, Indonesia has considered and implemented a social distancing strategy...
to separate social interactions and lockdown to prevent the spread of the disease (Karasmanaki & Tsantopoulos, 2021; Sit & Assingkily, 2020). Various measures have been taken to prevent the spread of this virus in Indonesia. Especially in the sector of education face-to-face learning was changed to online learning (E. Y. H. Lau & Lee, 2021; Mustakim, 2020; Ran & Jinglu, 2020). Based on the preliminary observation that has been conducted it was found that the students were using Google Classroom in online learning. It means that the teacher was implementing Google Classroom as a medium to support online learning. In the observed school, the implication of this approach was having a problem on students’ limited network because of the geographical condition. The students also got confused about the way to operate Google Classroom in specific conditions caused by the lack of knowledge on the use of the pedagogical platform. This study is further interested to investigate students’ perception toward the use of Google Classroom in English online learning. The urgencies of conducting this research are to find out the perception of students who seem to rarely use Google Classroom in online learning.

Currently, technology is increasingly advanced because it has a role in learning. Technology seems to make work easier and less time-consuming (Astuti et al., 2021; Lynch et al., 2021; Tuma, 2021). The learning process has been carried out online which was facilitated by technology as a previous media because of e-learning. In the online learning process, school devices use media as an effective interaction tool that can be accessed by students and teachers (Ellianawati et al., 2021; E. Y. H. Lau & Lee, 2021; Mustakim, 2020). In line with technological developments, many platforms provide educational services that underlie online learning, such as WhatsApp, Zoom, Quipper School, Ruang Guru, Webex, Google Meet, and the like (Arizona et al., 2020; Putra, 2021; Setyawan et al., 2020; Suhery et al., 2020). One of the most widely used learning platforms is Google Classroom (Al-Maroon & Al-Emran, 2018; Santosa et al., 2020). Google Classroom is one of the learning applications designed and developed by Google for academic purposes that is easy to use (Maharani & Kartini, 2019; Putra, 2021). Google Classroom is a blended learning platform with attractive and simple features for schools (Amrina & Sundari, 2021; Khalil, 2018; Mahitsa & Mahardini, 2020). It is easy for students and teachers to do online learning with this platform. Google Classroom is a tool that is used as media for student and teacher collaboration. So that teachers can create and distribute assignments to students in online classes (Albashtawi & Al Bataineh, 2020; Guswara, 2020; Permata & Bhakti, 2020). Google Classroom can be a means that can involve students to be active in the online learning process. Teachers can create active, student-centered, and collaborative learning through this platform. In addition, teachers and students can carry out learning activities through online classes anytime and anywhere (M. K. Ali & Maksum, 2020; Kurniawati et al., 2019; Soni et al., 2018).

In this case, it can lead to student perceptions of the learning process, it is expected to be able to develop and control themselves positively and be able to interact with the environment. In addition, in the implementation of learning students are required to be active not only as facilitators but also as spectators for themselves (Haka et al., 2020; Octoberlina & Muslimin, 2020; Suhery et al., 2020). The word audience refers to the way people give their views about something. This term indicates the way people perceive something which is commonly called perception. Perception is described as a manner of recognizing and perceiving understanding facts (Dumitrescu et al., 2014; Edwards, 2018; Xu & Wu, 2021). Perception is also defined as the ability to see, understand, then interpret a stimulus so that it becomes something meaningful and produces interpretation (Lau & Li, 2019; Omotayo & Haliru, 2020; Sorensen, 2013). Students’ perceptions reflect their attitudes or behavior obtained from the online learning process during the observation of online learning processes. The results of these observations will lead to a perception where the perception can be positive or negative depending on the observations of each individual. When online learning takes place, some students think online learning is not fun and very boring because they only listen and see movements through videos or direct movements from the teacher. This assumption is different from what is expected by teachers who try to make learning as interesting as possible so that students feel happy, comfortable and don’t feel burdened to take part in online learning. The findings of previous studies also state that online learning can be assisted by using the google classroom application (Al-Maroon & Al-Emran, 2018; Santosa et al., 2020; Sukawati & Nensia, 2019). Other research findings also state that online learning using google classroom can help students understand learning material (Maharani & Kartini, 2019; Mahitsa & Mahardini, 2020; Putra, 2021). It can be said that online learning using the Google Classroom application can be used during the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no study on students’ perceptions of the use of Google Classroom in online English learning. This study aims to analyze students’ perceptions of the use of google classroom in online English learning in rural high schools. It is hoped that the use of Google Classroom can increase students’ enthusiasm and understanding in learning.

2. METHOD

This research was designed in the form of qualitative research that uses a case study research design. Qualitative research is research that describes phenomena. The type of qualitative research used in this research was a case study research design. A case study is a research that investigates phenomena in real life. The phenomena described in this study Students Perception on The Use of Google Classroom in English Online Learning at A Rural Junior High School
Learning at 8th grade of SMP Ayodhya Pura, Selat. The study was conducted on 8th-grade students of SMP Ayodhya Pura, Selat. In this class, only 2 classes that used Google Classroom are at 8A and 8B, and the other class at 8th grade uses WA application. Thus, only 8A and 8B have asked for data regarding perceptions on the use of Google Classroom. In this study, the researcher used questionnaires, interviews, and documentation to collect data. Three techniques were used to collect the data of this research namely, questionnaire, interview, and documentation. Furthermore, the interview technique was already held to get the deep analysis from the obtained data in the preview observation. Qualitative data analysis theory was used for data analysis there were four steps namely; Data collection, Data reduction, Data display, and Verification or Conclusion Drawing (Miles et al., 2014). In data collection, the data were collected from the two instruments, which are the questionnaire and interview guide. The data from the questionnaire was used to find students’ perceptions on the used Google Classroom in English online learning. Furthermore, the data from the interview was conducted based on the data analysis found through a questionnaire. The data reduction, the data were reduced to find the data based on the researcher’s need. Data display. In this study, the data were displayed in writing of the data. There was no number and statistical analysis. The data was described in detail. In Verification or Conclusion in this study, the data were verified by relating the finding with the literature review. After that, the data were concluded to answer the statement of the problem.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result
Based on the data from the questionnaire, this study found several responses from the students by using a questionnaire consisting of 21 questions. These were the students’ responses to each question. The result of the questionnaire can be seen in Table 1. Based on the result of the questionnaire, it can be seen that most of the students in SMP Ayodhya Pura have a positive perception of Google Classroom.

Table 1. Result of the questionnaire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Statements</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>I know and understand what E-Learning is.</td>
<td>43.1% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>I know and understand what Google classrooms are.</td>
<td>53.4% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Google Classroom application is very flexible for students in utilizing online learning.</td>
<td>44.8% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>I like how learning is held using Google classroom at SMP Ayodhya Pura, Selat,</td>
<td>41.4% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>There is no difficulty in operating Google Classroom on an online learning system.</td>
<td>39.7% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Google Classroom is the right learning medium to be implemented at SMP Ayodhya Pura, Selat, Buleleng</td>
<td>56.9% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The facilities at my house support access to E-Learning</td>
<td>37.9% of 100% neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>The google classroom application gives me benefits in the learning process</td>
<td>55.2% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>With the application of google classroom, I can study and do assignments wherever I am when I am connected to the internet.</td>
<td>44.8% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>I am happy to be able to ask questions and answers from class teachers and classmates</td>
<td>50% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>The appearance of google classroom is very clear and easy to understand</td>
<td>43.1% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>With google classroom, it is easy to get material announcements and efficient assignment submissions</td>
<td>44.8% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>By using google classroom, I’m more active in the learning process</td>
<td>41.4% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Google classroom is easy to access</td>
<td>44.8% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Some teachers never use E-Learning</td>
<td>37.9% of 100% neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>E-Learning learning is more fun than face-to-face learning.</td>
<td>43.1% of 100% neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>I open E-Learning only if there are assignments.</td>
<td>41.4% of 100% agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>I find it difficult to study with google classroom.</td>
<td>39.7% of 100% neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>In my opinion, collecting assignments in the form of files is difficult for students</td>
<td>41.4% of 100% neutral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Furthermore, based on the result of the interview session, there are some obstacles faced by the students. First, the interaction between students and students is limited because the students focus on the interaction with the teacher. It can be seen that the interaction is limited in online sessions because the students only focus on instruction from the teacher and the students need to pay attention to it because the online learning somehow is unstable which means if they miss part of the discussion, the students will be difficult to re-track the discussion. Second, the students are difficult to adapt to Google Classroom which resulted from their comfort in learning. It can be seen the students think Google Classroom is not effective because they cannot adapt to the application which can be seen with the response of the students when some of them cannot understand the feature in Google Classroom. Third, the students have a problem accessing the application which resulted in their learning process. It can be seen the students have complaints when accessing the Google Classroom in which the students cannot join the class because they do not have cellular data which means they cannot access Google Classroom and they cannot learn the online course. Next, the students submitted the task late because they are waiting for the cellular data and good internet to make the assignment submitted successfully.

Discussion

Based on the result of the questionnaire, it can be seen that most of the students in SMP Ayodhya Pura have a positive perception toward Google Classroom which can be seen from the mean which is 3.6. This is in line with the research, also exposed Students’ Perception of Using Google Classroom for Teaching English by focusing on the view of using the application at the university level in Bangladesh in which 82% of learners said that google classroom easy to be used in anywhere and anytime (Islam, 2015). 56 % said that the application can help to correct their mistakes. 85% said that video and quiz are interesting. Thus, the finding shows that students have a positive
view toward the use of Google Classroom for speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. By seeing the result of the questionnaire, it can be seen that although the students have the problem during using Google Classroom for learning, their perception is still positive which is in line with the research showed that Google Classroom is easy and helpful for both students and teachers’ perspective although, many challenges were exposed to increase the use of application for higher education (Ali & Maksum, 2020; Kumar et al., 2020; Permata & Bhakti, 2020).

Based on the result of the interview guide, there are 3 main obstacles faced by the students in learning by using Google Classroom. First, the interaction between students and students is limited because the students focus on the interaction with the teacher. Because of that, online learning somehow is unstable which means if they miss part of the discussion, the students will be difficult to re-track the discussion (Albashtawi & Al Bataineh, 2020; Khalil, 2018; Mahitsa & Mahardini, 2020; Permata & Bhakti, 2020). Online learning is a commitment and a resource that must be done right which means that online learning materials must be designed properly, with learners and learning in focus, and adequate support must be provided (Azhari & Fajri, 2021; Lau & Lee, 2021; Mansur et al., 2021; Mustakim, 2020). Based on the statement from Spector, it can be seen that compared to the situation in SMP Ayodhya Pura, online learning is still not done properly due to students’ limited access to their learning which resulted in another problem for example late in submitting the assignment to the teacher.

Communication is important in connecting teachers and students during online learning to make sure the learning goes well however in SMP Ayodhya Pura, online learning is unstable. The unstable online learning happened because of the limited facilities for example internet connection in which must be existed in online learning because audio, video, computer, and network technologies are often combined to create diverse instructional delivery systems and the basic method of bringing distance learning instructors together with distance students is networking (Arizona et al., 2020; Hutauruk & Sidabutar, 2020; Napsawati, 2020). Second, the students think Google Classroom is not effective because they cannot adapt to the application which can be seen with the response of the students when some of them cannot understand the feature in Google Classroom. The disadvantages of Google Classroom such as lack of human resources who understand the internet. Based on the statement of the theory, some of the students at SMP Ayodhya Pura cannot understand how to use Google Classroom, they need more understanding and practice in school how to use or access Google Classroom. Third, the students have complaints when accessing the Google Classroom in which the students cannot join the class because they do not have cellular data which means they cannot access Google Classroom and they cannot learn the online course. Next, the students submitted the task late because they are waiting for the cellular data and good internet to make the assignment submitted successfully. This is in line with the study show the students’ side about seeing the barriers and discovered three barriers during online learning including unfamiliarity with the use of digital learning, limited internet connection, and physical condition (Heng & Sol, 2020; Hwang et al., 2020; Mishra et al., 2020; Vlachopoulos, 2020). This is also in line with the study in which the study aims to explore the effectiveness of Google Classroom in the learning process.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the data findings there were students’ perceptions on the use of Google Classroom as online learning media is categorized as positive. The obstacles faced by students during the application of Google Classroom in online learning are first, the interaction between students and students is limited because the students focus on the interaction with the teacher. Second, The students think Google Classroom is not effective because they cannot adapt to the application which can be seen with the response of the students when some of them cannot understand the feature in Google Classroom. Third, the students have complaints when accessing the Google Classroom in which the students cannot join the class because they do not have cellular data which means they cannot access Google Classroom and they cannot learn the online course. Fourth, the students submitted the task late because they are waiting for the cellular data and good internet to make the assignment submitted successfully.

5. REFERENCES


