

The Implementation of English Online Learning in Rural-Area

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ABSTRACT

This article's goal is to explain how well English may be learned online. The research methodology for this study combines qualitative descriptive analytic approaches with descriptive methods. Qualitative research describes in depth and detail and generates data in the form of spoken or written words from the subjects being studied. Through qualitative research methods like in-depth interviews, it is possible to comprehend the behaviors of the subject and object under study. The interview form is conducted online utilizing the WhatsApp app due to online circumstances. 29 students from class VIII of SMP Nur Hidayah, Ulak Embacang, and Musi Banyuasin served as the primary data sources, while secondary data sources included books, journals, and library materials linked to this subject. 26 of the 29 pupils in class VIII at SMP Nur Hidayah Ulak Embacang approved with online learning, according to the results. The others disagreed because their families' circumstances were still less favorable. The discussion leads to the conclusion that online English learning is a very efficient approach for learning the language. It is evident from the accomplishment of the language learning objective, namely the improvement of English language abilities.

Keyword: English, Online Learning, Rural-Area

INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2019, the entire world was panicked and scared by a very deadly virus. The virus spread and is increasingly widespread at the beginning of 2020. The virus is the covid-19 virus. The virus that appeared at the beginning was suspected to be a conspiracy effort from parties who wanted to seek the interests of certain groups. But this was rejected by the world health organization WHO at a press conference on March 24, 2020, in Geneva. WHO said that the coronavirus came from animals and was not something that was manipulated by any laboratory? This coronavirus started in China, more precisely in the city of Wuhan until now it has spread to all parts of the world (Redaksi, 2020).

The form of prevention so that COVID-19 does not spread is by maintaining a physical distance. But there is an impact of this physical distancing policy. These impacts include delays in development in various fields of human life, such as social, political, economic, religious, tourism, culinary, and education fields. Especially in education, the government has decided that There is no implementation of the teaching and learning process in schools but in their respective residences, which we know as the Work from Home policy.

The implementation of online learning known as online at the discretion of the government requires all processes of to be carried out are instructional and learning activities from their respective residences. Students can access material more conveniently through online learning without being constrained by time or location (Salim et al., 2020). It is one way to continue to realize educational goals despite the corona pandemic conditions, and efforts to prevent the spreading of the covid-19 virus. The current Covid-19 pandemic has changed the teaching and learning system and every day carrying out face-to-face changes to online learning. This online learning applies to all levels of education, from elementary school to university.

Learning with a system without face-to-face directly or better known as learning from home (BDR). The principle of Learning from Home Activities (LFH) is that students can access learning resources and materials freely without any time and place restrictions (Qomari, 2020). It is hoped that the Learning from Home (LFH) activity can support the remote simplifying the teaching process and the learning process to deliver/distribute the material to all students. So, during the present epidemic, the learning process that is often conducted in schools face-to-face with teachers and friends cannot be carried out. All students are required to study from home (LFH), therefore teachers are also required to prepare all learning processes that can be accessed by all students when looking from home. This

situation makes teachers have to change when delivering material. So it must use the correct and appropriate teaching method. This online learning is carried out so that students can still study without being hindered by time restrictions even during the corona pandemic (Morgan & O'Reilly, 2020).

Technology has a very strong and favourable impact on learning, according to numerous research. Information technology is acceptable as a tool in the educational process, aiding the teaching and learning process, which also include looking up references and information sources (Purwanto, 2022). The mobile phone is one of the technology mediums that is widely used today. (Hadisi & Muna, 2015). Other supporting devices include tablets or computers in addition to mobile phones. Numerous applications that can be used as a liaison during the teaching and learning process have been developed by the Indonesian government or application developers. However, even though it is a virtual model, professors can still instruct pupils face-to-face by using online programs that require an internet connection. However, various challenges exist in online learning, which reduces students' interest in it (Handarini & Wulandari, 2020).

Students' interest in online learning can be said to be low because the delivery of material cannot be absorbed perfectly like in face-to-face learning. (Dindin et al., 2020) said there are many constrained by several influencing factors such as signals/networks that are difficult to find in some places, communication tools that are not all owned by students, and relatively more wasteful quotas for accessing learning applications and for searching on search engines.

At all levels of education, they have never carried out online learning. Moreover, the application of learning in rural-urban areas is certainly not easy. Therefore, when learning online at the first secondary level, it will definitely pass through various obstacles. The most severe obstacle is the change in habits that occur in students, initially followed well and very enthusiastic to take part in learning from their respective homes. But over time it will make every student feel bored because they undergo the same activities every day. In addition, the teacher is not optimal in delivering the material in each subject. If on weekdays it is delivered using methods other than lectures, it will be a little easier to apply when learning online and vice versa if using the lecture method it will be difficult to apply online learning such as English subjects.

METHODOLOGY

This article's methodology combines a descriptive approach with qualitative descriptive analysis approaches. Research that is qualitative describes in depth and produces data in the form of words derived from the spoken or written words of the subjects being studied (Moleong, 2016). Using qualitative research is carried out to comprehend how the activities or behavior of the subject and item being examined using qualitative research methods, such as through in-depth interviews (Suyitno, 2018). Because it is more appropriate to conduct interviews rather than surveys in order to obtain data from this research on the efficiency of online learning for learning English. Because of the nature of the internet, the interviews are conducted over the WhatsApp app. The primary data sources were 29 students from class VIII SMP NUR HIDAYAH, Ulak Embacang, and Musi Banyuasin, while the secondary data sources were books, journals, and library resources linked to this article.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Result

Language is a social communication tool that is spoken from the human mouth in the form of a sound symbol system. We as social beings, of course, often meet or interact with the community. In the process of interacting, language is used to communicate every day. Language can be a channel for all important information such as religion, behavioural norms, arts, and so on (Fathurrahman et al., 2019)

The purpose of learning English is aimed at improving student communication by using good and correct English (Wekke & Hamid, 2013). In line with this opinion, the Ministerial

Regulation. National Education No. 22 of 2006 learning English is intended to increase students' language skills and ensure that they speak correctly, both in writing and orally, and to grow *respect* for literary works in Indonesia. In learning English there are 4 skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing (Leong & Ahmadi, 2017).

English is the most important tool in supporting technology and scientific advancement. The use of English must be applied consistently and correctly. Because English is used as an international communication (Egamnazarova & Mukhamedova, 2021). In accordance with the current curriculum, learning English in K 13 is text-based. With the aim of bringing students in accordance with mental development and able to solve problems in daily life critically with full consideration. To apply English learning, it is important to focus on the principles that must be considered, these principles are as follows: (1) language should be viewed as a text, not just a collection of words, (2) language use is a process to choose the form of language to express meaning. certain aspects, (3) language is functional, which means that language use cannot be separated from certain contexts because language is used to reflect ideas or attitudes, and (4) language is a means in the thought process of every human being.

With these principles, text-based English learning must be delivered in stages. Starting from the teacher's activity explaining the context, then continuing with the activity of giving examples. Explain and apply text together to create individual texts. This is an effort to make students' minds creative and train them to be more structured in the language (Dewi, 2018).

During online learning, especially in English subjects, class VIII SMP Nur Hidayah Ulak Embacang emphasizes learning using WhatsApp (WAG) groups. This WAG system is used as access to deliver learning materials, explanations and student assignments carried out by class teachers, namely Siti Zainab, S.Pd. In one day, on average, the teacher conveys in WAG once the material is in accordance with the instructions of the Musi Banyuasin District Office that students should not be too burdened with online learning because it can reduce students' immunity. In addition, teachers will also be busier if one day they have to deliver several materials or subjects. Because the teacher must correct student assignments that have been submitted online. But not only using WAG alone but also implementing Learning Consulting Services or group learning. Learning Consultation Service (LKP) is conducted once a week, where one day there is one group that goes to school. One group consists of 6-7 people who have been determined by the class teacher. Even though they are face-to-face, they still adhere to health protocols.

Online learning has both positive and negative sides. Considering the interview's findings, it was stated that online learning, students were more flexible when studying both the place and time and could spend more time with their parents at home. While on the negative side, the lack of internet access or signal, lack of supervision while studying, some have their cell phones brought to work by their parents so they are late to collect assignments and there are some students who do not have communication tools (mobile phones) for online learning.

As stated in the findings Meinawati & Baron's article found that the regarding the implementation of online learning, it is said that in order for it to be effective, learning materials are presented in a nutshell to minimize the use of internet quota because students have to download the material in the form of videos (Meinawati & Baron, 2019). With this, it can increase the effectiveness of learning, but it is not absolutely fully applicable. The teacher must also see the condition of the material to be delivered at that time.

Something is said to be effective if it has achieved a predetermined goal. The goal of learning English is to improve one's ability to communicate in English, either orally or in writing (Purwanto et al., 2022). Judging from the results of the assignments that have been submitted to the class teacher, the eighth-grade students of SMP Nur Hidayah, in general, their language skills are not very good. The words they put together in English it is not easy to read and understand both by the teacher and by the researcher. There are only a few students whose writing is not neat. But it's not a big problem for the researchers themselves because they can still be read. In general, It might be said that eighth-grade pupils' writing abilities of SMP Nur Hidayah Ulak

Embacang are not good enough. When viewed student communication during interviews, all of them communicated politely and well. They speak English fluently. If to communicate with peers still use the Musi language or colloquial Sekayu. Meanwhile, when communicating with teachers during the Learning Consultation Service, class VIII students of SMP NUR HIDAYAH Ulak Embacang use good and correct Indonesian. So, it can be concluded that the eighth-grade students of SMP Nur Hidayah Ulak Embacang are not good enough at speaking English orally.

From the scores obtained by students after collecting assignments, it appears that the scores are quite good, especially for English subjects. There is no score below the specified Minimum Completeness Criteria (KKM), which is 75. Mrs. Siti Zainab said there were only a few obstacles when assessing the skill aspect. So, he anticipates taking the basic competencies that are *urgent* and taken during the Learning Consultation Service. This was done because Mrs. Siti Zainab used a Learning Implementation Plan (RPP) online or often referred to as a one-sheet lesson plan. The Education Office of Musi Banyuasin Regency also said that it could be reduced the assessments or components of Basic Competence have become provisions so as not to burden students. In addition to the assessment, Mrs. Siti Zainab also said that it was only appropriate to adjust the material with the conditions whether it was possible or not to take the value. If it is not possible, it will be replaced with another task.

But behind it all, there is a slight disturbance or *destruction* that causes online learning to be ineffective, namely that there are some students who have been poisoned by online games/games that are being played by many people. The results of interviews with students stated that there were some who played online games such as the Free Fire (FF) game. This game is a shooting-based game and is popular among both children and adults. These online games have an impact on the laziness of students to learn. They think more about playing these online games than studying. In fact, they often play together to play the game, so it becomes more exciting. Therefore, as parents, they must often monitor the activities of their sons and daughters both while studying or playing. Parents can't have their sons and daughters always study, but there is also time to play. As long as the portion of playing time does not exceed the portion of time for learning. There is a certain time limit when playing so as not to get addicted to playing online games.

Based on the results of the presentation, it may be claimed that studying English online is a really effective means of doing so. It is evident from the accomplishment of language learning goals, specifically the improvement of oral and written English skills. Although it is quite effective, there are obligations that must be faced by the teacher, the responsibility is to minimize the shortcomings in online learning.

2. Discussion

The phrases "inside" and "network" are where the term "online" originates. According to (Meinawati & Baron, 2019) online learning is a learning process using an internet connection when learning takes place. It is defined as a learning process that is carried out without a face-to-face process where students and their instructors (teachers) are in different places so that an interactive telecommunication system is needed to become a liaison media between teachers and students and requires complementary media (Yulianto & Nugraheni, 2021).

The online learning is a process of changing education from face-to-face to digital education so that it has its own challenges and opportunities (Mega et al., 2019). We can conclude that online learning is beneficial based on the experts' explanations given above a teaching and learning process that does not meet face-to-face as usual and uses an internet connection to stay connected/stay online.

The online learning can be a very effective solution during social distancing (Lee & Heinz, 2016). This activity stops face-to-face learning for a while and replaces online learning by utilizing applications in available technology. Online learning prioritizes the interaction process and enables students to more easily improve the quality of their learning with information. So there are many benefits for teachers and students. Online learning is carried out using various applications that can help the learning process, for example, GC, WhatsApp Group (WAG), study houses, meet,

and many other applications. This online learning makes students more independent because students will focus on their own communication tools to collect assignments and participate in discussions or receive material from the teacher (Setiani & Rasto, 2016). In essence, the concept of online learning is to provide learning as usual or as in conventional classes in general. This online system is adapted from the existing system in conventional schools into a digital system (Tanjung, 2018).

The online learning has several important points, namely: (1) Online as a substitute for face-to-face learning makes learning more effective and directed. (2) principled online learning is more dependent on more sophisticated technology and The education of pupils and instructors is what matters most (Isman, 2017). Thus, online use really requires the online preparation of each teacher and is supported by adequate facilities. The third principle is that online learning requires gradual and continuous evaluation. These 3 principles can be used when creating guidelines for developing online-based learning. The above principles are made so that online-based learning can run well.

The online learning process has many advantages including being more economical, not difficult to access, more efficient, interactive, consistent, and independent (S. Aziz et al., 2018). Furthermore, Sherry et al mention the advantages of online learning, which are as follows. (Sherry et al., 1998).

The first advantage of being online can save the cost of training. In addition, it is also cost-effective for office equipment, stationery, projectors, and other tools in a corporate or educational organization. Time Flexibility, meaning that being online allows students to access the Internet wherever they are and can adjust to their study time. The flexibility of place means that there is online learning as long as communication tools, whether cell phones, tablets, or computers, remain connected to the Internet, and materials can be downloaded at any time.

To overcome the problem of distance and time, online learning can provide a solution when it is blocked by place and time and can still be reached without being constrained by time. With the establishment of new learning conditions, with online learning activities, students are more enthusiastic and more enthusiastic when learning because it is supported by a learning system that is not like the usual atmosphere. Increasing the opportunity to learn more, online learning can increase learning opportunities for each student by offering a more interesting virtual experience. Controlling the learning process, scheduled learning via the Internet makes student learning schedules more organized and structured. Online learning provides easy access for teachers in the process of checking the extent to which students receive the material and study the material that has been submitted and work on practice questions (Ginaya et al., 2020).

But besides these advantages, online also has its drawbacks. These weaknesses include: having to use the internet network, preparing more costs, communicating using the internet, and experiencing various obstacles, namely slow (A. Aziz, 2020). In addition, in the article written by Putra, it is stated that the disadvantages of online are: there is rarely a direct/face-to-face interaction process between students and teachers or In interactions between students, learning often takes the form of training rather than education, and there are requirements for all effective teachers. senior teachers or junior teachers to learn learning techniques by utilizing technology, information and communication (ICT), some places that are still not reached by internet connections/signals, the lack of experts who are skilled in operating computer systems, and the difficulty of accessing material in since the facilities are not fully provided, in the form of graphics, photographs, and videos so that it makes students think more (Genova, 2019).

Learning has almost the same meaning as teaching although it has different connotations. When talking about education, the teacher as a teacher has an obligation to convey 3 aspects of K13, namely the ability of knowledge, social, and skill aspects. The difference between teaching and learning is that teaching is more impressive as a teacher/teacher, but learning is a reciprocal relationship between teachers and students (Lee & Heinz, 2016).

Susanto explained that learning is a process to educate students so that they can learn well (Pawlak & Oxford, 2018) While (Salonen et al., 2017) suggested that learning is basically a process of every student who is expected to develop and grow knowledge. While language is a communication tool used by the general public to communicate with each other. So learning about language is the same as learning to communicate. However, language learning, is more directed at improving communication, both verbal communication and written communication.

CONCLUSION

There are 29 students of class VIII SMP NUR HIDAYAH, Ulak Embacang, it was found that 26 students agreed with online learning. The rest do not agree because their family conditions are still less prosperous. As teachers and the government must adapt to the conditions of their students, policies must be elastic, not too rigid.

As a result of the discussion above, it can be argued that learning English online is a very efficient way. It is evident from the accomplishment of the language learning goals, specifically the improvement of English skills. Although it is quite effective, there are obligations that must be faced by the teacher, the responsibility is to minimize the short comings in online learning. One of them is debriefing teachers on the use of technology during learning.

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