

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Nowadays, the world has entered the era of globalization with rapidly developing information technology. The development of information technology can improve performance and enable various activities to be carried out quickly, precisely, and accurately so that it will increase productivity. In addition, the development of information technology has also influenced many fields of life, one of which is the field of education especially in learning English (Kenning, 2007:4).

Utilization of ICT in learning English is closely related to the use of computer. ICT tends to be preferred term replacing IT (Information Technology), because it shows the importance of electronic communication such as e-mail, the web and videoconferencing, as well as computer aspects (Nour, 2015:45). Computers have become an important part in developing ICT utilization. Computers are not only electronic devices that make it easy for teachers to make teaching materials using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel and Power Point). But also as a communication tool, because nowadays communication can easily be established even though the distance is thousands of kilometers. This can occur with the availability of e-mail, videoconferencing, etc.

Teachers have a very diverse selection of English learning media technology, for example, learning by using a computer and LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) to present lessons, using videos that can be found through various websites and

platforms, one of which is Youtube to support listening and speaking lessons, downloading teaching material for reading through search engines like Google and Yahoo to increase analysis ability from large source, or giving assignments for students to send writing via electronic mail (e-mail) as their writing assignments so that students can collect their assignment as soon as possible. Kenning (2007: 135) stated that modern technology is helped for both students and lecturer in learning English language obviously.

One of the popular ICT used nowadays is E-learning. The term "e" or the abbreviation of electronics in E-learning is used as a term for all technologies used to support teaching efforts through internet electronic technology (Fee, 2009:13). According to Fee (2009:14-15), E-learning is an educational system that uses electronic applications to support teaching and learning with internet media, computer networks, or stand alone computers. Furthermore, Aminpour (in Moghaddam 2012: 289) declares that E-learning is a method of learning which has been taken on the basis of applications of information technology and computer networks. Based on the definition of experts, researchers can conclude that E-learning is one of the learning methods that currently being developed by utilizing computers as learning media, in addition to providing an innovation that has a very large contribution to increasing the quality of learning process.

E-learning systems and applications have been widely applied in several universities. Some E-learning system and application that commonly used in universities are Edmodo, Moodle, Dokeos and Schoology. The concept of E-learning is increasingly developing because it has advantages compared to

conventional systems, namely: providing a wide opportunity for learning, developing the students' authority, and exercise more independent learners in gaining knowledge (Bowles, 2004:6).

Although there are many benefits and advantages, the application of E-learning is inseparable from various disadvantages. Various criticisms such as: lack of interaction between lecturers and students or even between students themselves. This lack of interaction can obstruct the formation of values in the learning and teaching process, students pressured to respond (Lamy, 2007:77) and not all internet facilities are available (maybe this is related to the problem of the availability of electricity, telephone or computer).

Using E-learning can increase interactivity and learning efficiency because it gives students a higher potential to communicate more with lecturers, colleagues, and access more learning material. However, a person's willingness to use technology products is very much influenced by perception. Perception is a process that starts from the use of the five senses in receiving a stimulus, then is organized and interpreted so as to have an understanding of what is sensed (Salkind, 2008:778).

Based on the preliminary study, in English department of Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo the E-learning is also commonly used by lecturer in their learning activity. It is occur because lecturers aware that by using ICT in this case using E-learning can be more interesting and effective. E-learning that commonly used by English department's lecturers are Edmodo, Google classroom, Whatsapp and platform (Bebas UMPO).

From explanation above, researcher wants to know about students' perception on E-learning use. In this study the subject of the research is fourth and sixth semester students in English department of Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo. Besides, the researcher also chose two English lecturers as additional subjects to complement the research data related to the E-learning class they were using. The researcher's reason in choosing these two lecturers because these two lecturers have actively use E-learning in teaching and learning activities, starting before the COVID-19 pandemic (because when the COVID-19 pandemic occurred all English lecturers use E-learning to follow up on the mandatory online learning). This research was conducted before the COVID-19 pandemic broke out so that the lecturers who were selected as additional subjects for the observation data are these two lecturers. ICT devices commonly used in these learning activities are Smartphones and computers. Utilization of ICT in learning activities, for example: using PowerPoint presentations, holding a discussion forum via Whatsapp, gathering assignments via E-mail, a reference source of learning from watching Youtube and others.

B. Statement of Problem

Based on the situation above, the researcher will identify some problems which will be formulated, such as:

1. What are students' perceptions on E-learning use in fourth and fourth and sixth semester of English department?
2. What elements of E-learning are used by lecturers in fourth and sixth semester of English department?

3. What impact that fourth and sixth semester of English department students got from the use of E-learning?

C. Purpose of Research

The specific purposes of the research are:

1. To find out students' perception on E-learning use in fourth and sixth semester of English department.
2. To find out the elements of E-learning are used by the lecturers in fourth and sixth semester of English department.
3. To find out the impact that fourth and sixth semester of English department students got from the use of E-learning.

D. Limitation of Research

This study is focused on the qualitative research to know students' perception in E-learning use in fourth and sixth semester of English department, the elements are used by the lecturer in fourth and sixth semester of English department, and the impact that fourth and sixth semester of English department students got from the use of E-learning . The subject of this study is the fourth and sixth semester of English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo.

E. Significance of Research

The writer hopes that this research can be useful for:

1. Lecturer

The lecturer can improve their method of learning activity by using E-learning and motivate their students to more increase their knowledge in many learning source especially by using E-learning.

2. Students

Give them information about the importance of technology in learning especially E-learning in learning activity.

3. Reader

This research is expected able to be reference to arrange the next research and also can be used to increase their knowledge and process of learning.

4. School

This research is expected can be used as additional references and information for English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo.

F. Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about the definition, the researcher gives the definition of key terms as follows:

Students' perception : Perception is essentially a cognitive process that experienced by everyone in way understanding information about their environment, both through vision, hearing, appreciation, feeling, and smell. (Salkind, 2008:778)

E-learning : Stand for electronic learning it is an educational system that uses electronic applications to support teaching and learning with internet media, computer networks, or stand alone computers. (Fee, 2009:14-15)