Investigate Students' Perspectives On The Impact Of Online English Learning During The Covid-19 Pandemic Era

Dinda Ogcilia[1*], Putri Kamalia Hakim[2]

[1,2] English Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and
Education, Singaperbangsa Karawang University

Email: dindaogcilia@Gmail.com[1], putrikamaliahakim@staff.unsika.ac.id[2]

Abstrak

Virus Corona (COVID-19) adalah penyakit menular yang disebabkan oleh virus SARS-CoV-2 yang telah mengubah seluruh kebiasaan hidup manusia hampir di seluruh dunia, termasuk perubahan pola belajar mengajar dari yang sebelumnya tatap muka menjadi secara online. Transisi ini tentunya berdampak pada guru dan siswa. Di sekolah ada banyak mata pelajaran, dan karena pembelajaran online, siswa mungkin saja mengalami masalah. Bahasa Inggris adalah salah satu pelajaran online siswa. Bahasa Inggris juga merupakan bahasa internasional yang digunakan di seluruh dunia, sehingga penting bagi siswa untuk belajar di berbagai negara di dunia, termasuk Indonesia. Beberapa materi yang diajarkan adalah cara menulis, membaca, dll. Penelitian ini bersifat deskriptif kualitatif dengan teknik pengumpulan data menggunakan wawancara menggunakan aplikasi whatsapp untuk menghindari mata rantai penularan covid-19. Informan yang menjadi sumber data adalah 10 siswa kelas 1 SMA Negeri 11 Kota Bekasi yang dipilih secara acak oleh peneliti selama proses penelitian. Dalam penelitian ini, informan memberikan berbagai tanggapan mengenai dampak pembelajaran online pada mata pelajaran bahasa Inggris. Para informan menjelaskan bahwa perubahan cara belajar mereka menyebabkan masalah dalam belajar mereka, tetapi juga membantu mereka menemukan cara lain untuk belajar bahasa Inggris.

Kata Kunci: *Covid-19, Kelas Bahasa Inggris, Pembelajaran Online, SMA.*

Abstract

Corona virus (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus that has changed all human life habits almost all over the world. including changes in teaching and learning patterns from face-to-face to online. This transition certainly has an impact on teachers and students. In school there are many subjects, and due to online learning students may have problems. English is one of the students' online lessons. English is also an international language used throughout the world, making it important for students to learn in various countries around the world, including Indonesia. Some of the materials taught are how to write, read, etc. This research is a qualitative descriptive with data collection techniques using interviews using the whatsapp application to avoid the chain of transmission of covid-19. The informants who became the data source were 10 grade 1 students of SMA Negeri 11 Bekasi City who were randomly selected by the researcher during the research process. In this study, informants gave various responses regarding the impact of online learning on English subjects. The informants explained that the change in their way of learning caused problems in their learning, but also helped them find other ways to learn English.

Keywords: *Covid-19, English Classes, Online Learning, Senior Highschool.*

INTRODUCTION

In 2019, there was an epidemic that changed all human life habits almost all over the world. This virus is named Corona virus disease or what we usually call COVID-19, which is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The corona virus infection pandemic itself is a problem faced by more than 200 countries in the world and has entered Indonesia, where the death rate reached 8.9% at the end of March 2020 (Setiati & Azwar,

2020). In fact, the increase in the number of Covid-19 cases over time has made Indonesia the country with the highest number of Covid-19 cases in Southeast Asia. Indonesia recorded the highest daily death toll in the world in the week of July 11 with 1,007 cases, ahead of India which was in third place with 720 cases, Russia in second with 749 cases, and Brazil with 597 cases (Muhammad, 2021). Due to this virus, everyone is forced to change their habits which they usually do every day. Their activities are now limited by health protocols that limit them from physical contact with other people out there to prevent the spread of the corona virus through physical contact or fluids in the body of people who have contracted the virus. These changes cover many things to important things in life such as social, economic, health, to the realm of education. Thus, making the government in Indonesia determine that COVID-19

As a Public Health Emergency in Indonesia which must be carried out in accordance with
provisions of laws and regulations (Pragholapati, 2020).

One by one, aspects of community life have also undergone significant changes. The people who used to be dense in all corners of the city slowly began to disappear and leave their daily lives behind. Even some regions in the world and even in Indonesia have limited their activities until some have implemented a lockdown policy. At the start of the pandemic, not everyone could be forced to stay at home. However, some people with important responsibilities such as health workers or doctors are required to be on standby where they must always be there when needed. Health agencies such as hospitals and so on have a role as providers of public health facilities and are required to provide the best service. In order for the best service to be realized, the work productivity of health workers plays a very important role in this success (Seno, Anindita, & Jus'at, 2022).

Other aspects of social life such as politics, economics, and education use online systems in their operations. As in government meetings to regulate various policies using online social media networks such as zoom meetings or similar applications that are used to maximize their performance during a pandemic like this. In the field of education, initially students are given vacations for a relatively long time and are returned to school with a new system using an online system or commonly referred to as "distance learning". However, in practice, not all schools in Indonesia are ready for this new learning system. The emergence of new cultures and habits in student life due to the pandemic that occurred, thus making all students feel shocked and stiff with the new system created. Therefore, researchers conducted this study to determine students' perceptions of the impact of online learning during the pandemic as a form of regulatory change made by the government to adjust the situation during COVID-19 in the field of education so that it continues to run as it should.

ONLINE CLASSES DURING COVID-19

School is a place where students learn and get the knowledge given by their respective teachers with the aim of being able to practice it in social life. Education has a goal to create quality human resources for the development of the nation and state (Fajri, 2019). Generally, every school in Indonesia starts its first lesson at 7 am. However, they usually come at 6.30 for the flag ceremony or tadarus qur'an in the morning. But all that cannot be done during a pandemic. This is related to the evidence that the corona virus spreads very quickly, and the emergence of new types of viruses that continue to grow (Olivia, Gibson, & Nasrudin, 2020). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic which cannot be considered a joke because at that time there was no vaccine for the virus yet. This makes all activities turn online, from learning activities to teacher coordination meetings at schools. Based on the results of 16 studies which, when applied with a high level of compliance or above 70%, quarantine of exposed people and reducing social activities were declared effective in slowing the transmission of the corona virus (Setiati, & Azwar, 2020).

There are management strategies that are widely accepted and implemented as an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19, such as the implementation of forced lockdowns, travel and social restrictions, quarantine, social distancing, isolation, and other infection control measures. Therefore, there is a notification so that people stay at home which is stricter by reducing mass gatherings and social activities are also actively carried out. Even at the beginning of the pandemic, schools were forced to close all their activities for 14 days and could be extended as needed. It is not easy to change a habit that is done repeatedly in human life, especially those related to social activities in society.

Slowly, things started to get better. All lines of life began to adopt a new habit known as the "new normal". Many people complain about changes in habits that make it increasingly difficult for them to carry out their activities, but life still has to go on. The COVID-19 pandemic is not what everyone wants. A new policy for continuous learning activities was made by the authorities so that students can continue to study remotely or use the online system. By using their devices in their respective places of residence, teachers continue to teach and provide materials to students using methods that are appropriate to the character of the students in their respective schools. The new policy set by the Ministry of Education and Culture has reaped the pros and cons of many people. Both of these things cannot be avoided in society, which cannot be separated from the problem of supporting facilities for online learning activities, such as the readiness of information and communication technology, human resources, and supporting facilities (Tsuroya, 2020).

However, learning must continue as it should. Each school continues to carry out its teaching and learning activities through an online system or distance learning. In fact, all policies or activities have their respective advantages and disadvantages. But in reality, distance learning has also proven to be an educational solution during the COVID-19 pandemic if its implementation is done properly. Not a few schools are successful in its implementation, so not a few other schools are encouraged to participate in implementing it as well. In this case, the learning model also develops. Included in learning English. Although there are many models, but again, as previously mentioned, this cannot be separated from the pros and cons of the distance learning system that is being implemented.

It cannot be denied that online learning makes students more developed in terms of seeking knowledge and learning English which is a foreign language in Indonesia itself. Related to that, research related to perception is very necessary in order to find out how the students' point of view is related to their interest and motivation in learning, especially in learning English. Given that motivation is an important part of the learning process, especially autonomous ones (Fandino, Munoz, & Velandia, 2019).

METHOD

In carrying out this research, the researcher used a qualitative approach to informants using descriptive methods with the aim of researching to uncover the impact of distance learning or what is commonly called online learning for 10 students who are in grade 1 level in high school in English subjects.

There are many data collection techniques that can be used in conducting research. However, in this study, researchers used descriptive qualitative methods. Basically, the core of this research focuses on the very special properties of the items observed, then it becomes the main concern of researchers to complicate it by exploring them intensively (Mudji Rahardjo, 2017).

In this study, researchers used interview techniques to 10 grade 1 students of SMAN 11 Bekasi City as informants through the WhatsApp application according to the conditions at the time of the study during the Covid-19 pandemic which was feared to be transmitted during this research process. The informants in this study were 10 students and active students at SMAN 11 Bekasi City who were randomly selected. By using interview techniques via whatsapp, researchers have succeeded in getting the data needed in research obtained from informants through interview techniques.

The interview technique is used by researchers with the aim of obtaining information related to facts, beliefs, feelings, desires, and other things needed to fulfill research objectives (Rosaliza, 2015).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

This research was conducted through WhatsApp devices in their respective places (indirectly). The informants of this study were 10 grade 1 students of SMAN 11 Bekasi city who were randomly selected. This is because the researcher wanted to know the impact of distance learning, or online on their early years as high school students, especially in English class. Based on the results of interviews conducted by researchers regarding the impact of online learning for grade 1 high school students on English subjects starting from each student's understanding of English subjects, the atmosphere of learning English at school, the difficulties they face. The experience of learning English, the differences and changes in learning through online methods, the

impact they feel in online learning, to their attitude when facing obstacles or difficulties in learning online are as follows (1) each informant explained that they agreed with the English subject is a subject that teaches us to be able to communicate, speak, and write in English which is also an international language used throughout the world. (2) related to the atmosphere in the English class they experienced, the students had opinions that were divided into two different assumptions. Some feel that the atmosphere in English lessons has become more exciting, interesting, and fun. However, assumptions related to class atmosphere are more dominated by opinions that feel nothing special and are not good or bad. However, the change of atmosphere into learning with this online method makes the process of learning activities more difficult because it is not done directly (especially in speaking class). (3) Grammar is the main obstacle faced by informants in learning English during school hours. In addition, they also agreed that translating words from Indonesian to English was a fairly difficult obstacle for them because of the large number of vocabularies they did not know, and they did not understand English, so they needed to learn or teach well again. (4) The limitations that occur when conducting online learning become difficulties for all informants in learning. They agreed that the limited space and interactions that occurred during the learning process became difficulties for them. (5) The inhibition of their learning process. Informants on English subjects have a significant impact on the transition of learning methods from offline to online. (6) all informants responded to transitional situations related to how to learn at school from offline to online by learning independently through various other learning media that they felt were suitable or suitable for them. The informants explained that they were lagging behind in learning English by studying through YouTube, movies, games, and songs, which were closely related to their daily lives. When they read or hear sentences in English, their curiosity makes them translate the sentences into Indonesian so that they can understand it, so this indirectly helps them in the process of learning English as a second language.

Discussion

The name COVID-19 comes from the corona virus disease that occurred in 2019. This virus first came from Wuhan, the Republic of China, China which was identified as the cause of an outbreak of an infectious respiratory disease that infects many people in many countries in the world. COVID-19 is a problem that occurs in more than 200 countries around the world and has recorded 719,758 confirmed cases worldwide as of March 31, 2020, with the number of deaths related to COVID-19 also reaching 33,673 worldwide (Setiati, & Azwar, 2020). From the results of a press conference held by the World Health Organization (WHO) together with its announcement in the Mass media on March 11, 2020, it was said that COVID-19 had been declared a pandemic because there had been more than 118,000 cases of COVID-19 in 114 countries with The number of deaths is 4,291 people, and related to this, it is clear that COVID-19 is not only a public health crisis, but also a crisis that will have an impact on various sectors (Harvian, 2022).

Not only in Indonesia but all over the world. These pandemic attacks various sectors of daily life, including the education sector. In connection with this, the Indonesian government itself has made and stipulated government regulation number 21 of 2020 which contains matters in the form of large-scale social restrictions in the context of accelerating the handling of the corona virus disease COVID-19 (Pragholapati, 2020). The government also urges people not to leave their homes and avoid gathering so that all face-to-face activities are minimized and replaced with online activities (Harvian, 2022). This also makes a change in the pattern of teaching and learning which was previously face-to-face to become online through various online media with learning activities carried out at their respective homes. However, this transition certainly has an impact not only on teachers who provide teaching materials, but students who study are also affected by the pandemic. As a form of effort to avoid the chain of virus spread, students who study from home are directed to use gadgets or other devices that can be used for online learning. Learning media and recommended and commonly used also vary. Media that is available in various applications that are commonly used in class include Zoom meetings, WhatsApp, Google Meet, and others.

Thus, there are not a few people who are pro and contra against the new regulation. Besides that, there are several things that must and need to be considered during online learning during the pandemic. If teaching and learning activities are carried out online, including teacher readiness, ICT infrastructure is also optimized,

and internet technology for poor and vulnerable families also needs to be considered and considered by the government, as well as other risks that may occur must also be anticipated, such as dropout rates. Schools that are likely to increase, decline in children's abilities, and basic education will be disrupted (s, 2022). However, the government's decision is considered the most appropriate to reduce the increase in the number of victims from the presence of COVID-19 in Indonesia.

In schools there are many subjects, and because of online learning students may experience problems. The pros and cons that occur cannot be separated from the students' own learning experiences related to their motivations and interests. One of the subjects that need to be studied this time is related to students' online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic is learning English. English is an international language that connects us with other people in other parts of the world. English can be said to be a big business, our English language skills are important as a person's competitiveness in this world. With good English skills, we will have useful value for our country as well. However, that does not mean we have to forget Indonesian which is the language of our nation's unity (Maduwu, 2016). That is why English in Indonesia has become a foreign language but still needs to be learned.

Although it is a foreign language, in fact English is one of the main materials that must be learned and taught in Indonesia. Therefore, all schools in Indonesia have English subjects taught to their students so that they can understand and practice it in the outside world. Especially in today's era, where English has become a mandatory thing to learn. However, returning to the initial problem, students find it difficult to learn English through online learning media and this is the main focus of this research. Because basically at SMAN 11 Bekasi City itself, it is felt and seen to have succeeded in implementing this online learning. But just like there are many pros and cons in its application globally, the same thing as at SMAN 11 Bekasi City as well. The 10 students who were used as informants agreed to explain that through this online learning system learning became more difficult than before. Their difficulty in communicating with each other between students and teachers as well as with other friends is a difficulty for them to learn English. Their understanding of teaching materials is hampered because their interactions depend on the data network they have, ranging from data speed to the amount of internet quota they have to carry out the learning process. In addition, the learning atmosphere at home is also relatively unsupportive because home is actually a place for students to rest every day, but distance learning makes students learn in the atmosphere they usually use to unwind and this has the effect of making students unable to study in peace, focus and tend to reduce interest in learning.

However, the students did not stop learning despite the obstacles in front of them. All informants explained that they use other media such as YouTube which provides English learning videos or videos from abroad that have Indonesian subtitles translated with English voices so that they can understand slowly the sentences in the video. Besides videos, games are also an option for them to develop their English skills. In an era where players can meet each other even in different countries through the same network server, they can interact with each other. One of the informants explained that he plays a game called player unknown battleground which he plays on his device, allowing him to interact with other people from other countries who meet him on the Asian server, thereby spurring his intention and enthusiasm to do better in learning English. In terms of listening, the informants explained that songs were their choice to improve their listening skills in English. L In addition to memorizing vocabulary, they can understand through the tones and rhythms that are heard through the songs they each enjoy. So that learning in the form of material that they receive from teachers at school can still be helped by activities that they think can improve their ability to learn English at home. In carrying out the given task due to several things such as their interest and comfort in videos, games, and movies

CONCLUSION

Everyone today is forced to change habits that they have never faced before. A few years ago, it never occurred to us that the whole world would change because of a virus that is endemic all over the world that attacks the respiratory organs of people in the world. In the world of education, both formal and informal, there are changes in the learning methods. By using the current technology, we maximize it so that the nation's future students still get their right to gain the knowledge they deserve at school. The government implements a distance learning policy for all schools so that learning activities continue as they should. Despite all the

obstacles that occur, learning activities in schools must continue.

This also affects English subjects. Students who study English have difficulty in interacting with the teacher or with friends when there is material related to groups or other class activities. It can be concluded that all of the informants agreed to explain that grammar is a separate obstacle that they feel in learning English. However, where there is difficulty there is a way. The informants explained that they had other alternatives to learn their English outside the material given by the teacher at school. Through videos, films, games, and songs that use English. It is undeniable that they tend to understand English more easily through these media during online learning, regardless of the material they still get in online classes. It also increases their enthusiasm in learning English, and helps them in carrying out the assigned tasks due to several things such as their interest and comfort in videos, games, and movies.

Everyone experiences difficulties in their life, including in the learning process. No one wants a disease to spread throughout the world and create fear and insecurity in everyone in the world. But it needs to be understood when there are problems that come to us, focus on the solutions we need, not on the problems that come our way. These problems come to be trials that must be faced together and we need to find solutions to get out of these problems. When one path is closed, another will be opened for us. If we are not able to maximize our learning at school because of our discomfort in the learning process, we can still maximize existing technology such as social media, YouTube, and other alternatives in exploring and learning something, in this case learning English as an international language. Adapted to the interests and comfort of each of us, we can use other options such as songs in English if we like music or games if we like playing video games or others to improve or help us in solving problems and other related matters. Improving the quality of learning.

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