STUDENTS’ PERCEPTION TOWARD E-LEARNING IN PANDEMIC ERA AT ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM OF IAI MUHAMMADIYAH SINJAI

Harmilawati¹, Khaerunnisa²
¹Institut Agama Islam Muhammadiyah Sinjai
²Institut Agama Islam Muhammadiyah Sinjai
E-mail: iladilla1986@gmail.com Tlp:+6208292562626

Abstract
This research aims to know the problem of what is the students’ perception toward E-Learning at English Education Study Program of IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai, especially during the pandemic era. The researchers use the descriptive qualitative method in this research. The population in this research were all students in English Education Study Program, Academic Year 2017/2018 of Faculty Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai that consist of 34 people. While the sample of this research is also 34 people by using Total Sampling technique. Technique of collection data that used in this research were interview, coding, classifying, and documentation. The result of this research showed that most of the students thought that the use of E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perceptions. These negative perception caused by some reasons, namely: the limitation of network and internet quotes; unsupportive facilities, such as laptop and gadget or handphone; limited time in interacting with lecturers.

Keywords: Students’ Perception; E-Learning; Pandemic Era

Abstrak

Kata kunci: Persepsi mahasiswa; Pembelajaran Online; Era Pandemik
1. Background of the Research

The epidemic currently hitting the world is called the Corona Virus Disease which began to appear in December 2019 which is abbreviated as COVID-19 originating from the Chinese State of Wuhan City, Hubei Province and is spreading very quickly throughout the world, including Indonesia. Seeing this condition, the World Health Organization WHO has declared this condition called a pandemic which is of concern to the world community or a health emergency.

The spread of COVID-19 on November 18, 2020 has reached 55,912,458 which has hit several countries over the seas (kompas.com), while in Indonesia the affected community has reached 452,291 (lengkaparumun.com), and South Sulawesi were 19,444 people (kompas.com). Humans who are infected and positive COVID-19 will continue to increase every day. The high spread of the corona virus in Indonesia not only has an impact on the high death rate of citizens but the impact is very widespread, including: a decline in the economy, limited transportation, layoffs everywhere, resulting in a very high unemployment rate and ultimately leading to various types of crimes in the midst of society.

These conditions encourage the Indonesian government to implement various policies to prevent the spread of the corona virus, including large-scale social restrictions (PSBB). The implementation of the PSBB by the Indonesian government raises various pros and cons in the community, so that various ways of the community responds to the policy, some accept it and some reject it for various reasons. Another way that the government has taken to break the chain of the spread of COVID-19 is by temporarily closing places of worship, closing schools and campuses, closing offices by enforcing work from home (WFH).

All activities are carried out at home, including education sector. This policy is carried out by the government with the aim of increasing public awareness of the dangers of the spread of this corona virus. The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 190 countries and all continents. Closures of schools and other learning spaces have impacted 94 per cent of the world’s student population, up to 99 per cent in low and lower-middle income countries (Anonim, 2020:2). By this data, the Indonesian Minister of Education and Culture, Nadiem Makarim, decided that schools and other educational institutions including higher education to temporarily stop the conventional teaching and learning activities in the schools and encourage lessons to be conducted from home through e-learning. The entire learning process was carried out at home issued by the Indonesian Minister of Education and Culture Circular Note No. 3, 2020 concerning the prevention of corona virus in educational units (SPRIPIM POLRI, 2020: 10). As long as schools and campuses are closed, the learning process cannot be carried out. To anticipate that the learning process can continue to be carried out, the learning process is carried out online. By this time, the online learning becomes one of the most current and potential issues.

The online platform has been gaining acceptance around the world, especially in the COVID-19 pandemic. Learning process which is initially run in the classroom, due to the pandemic, has to be done online. Thus, educators are encouraged to use online platforms in conducting a teaching process.

English Education Study Program of Faculty Tarbiyah adn Teacher Training, Islamic Institute of Muhammadiyah Sinjai (IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai) is one of the study program in South Sulawesi that implements a policy that all academic and non-academic activities are carried out at home. The learning process is carried out through online learning with various platforms including Whatsapp, Google Classroom, zoom, meet, e-learning and so on. According to (Darmawan, 2011: 12) the use of online can facilitate learning activities and other communication activities. Meanwhile (Clark & Mayer, 2016: 56) explained that the application of online learning between lecturers and students has its own role. Lecturers act as facilitators while students have a role as knowledge constructors in online learning.
Online learning has advantages and disadvantages, as for the advantages of online learning, namely: it can interact between students and lecturers, learning can be done from anywhere and anytime, can reach an unlimited distance material can be stored online, (Darmawan, 2011: 39). Online learning patterns using various platforms are carried out by utilizing technology in the learning process, (Windhiyana, 2020: 5). While the shortcomings or weaknesses of online learning according to (Waryanto, 2006: 2): the implementation of online learning requires adequate infrastructure including internet networks, laptops, computers, cell phones, and applications such as Google Classroom, Schology, Zoom, Meet, Whats App. All of these applications must be implemented online which require internet data packages and electricity networks.

The implementation of online learning with its advantages and disadvantages encourages the author to dig deeper about The Students’ Perception toward E-Learning in Pandemic Era at English Education Study Program of IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai as a result of government policies to carry out all academic activities or various activities that must be carried out at home or known as Work From Home (WFH) during the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Many research studies exploring the utilization of video conferencing in education context were conducted. For instance, Pooja Tamta and M.A. Ansari entitled “A Study of University Student’s Perceptions towards e-Learning”, 2017. The findings indicate that a large majority of students (91%) have positive perceptions about e-Learning. Further, student’s academic performance, computer/ Laptop ownership, computer proficiency and frequency of computer use were found to have positive and significant correlation with students’ perception towards e-learning. The second research conducted by L Vitoria, M. Mislinawati, and N. Nurmasyitah entitled “Students’ Perceptions on the Implementation of E-Learning: Helpful or Helpful?”, 2018. The results of this research showed that the students perceived the e-learning web-based module to be useful in improving their understanding, independence, self-discipline, motivation to learn, and interactions with each other and with the teacher. The students also agreed that the e-learning web-based module was easy to use. This study implies that the inclusion of technology in education at the university is beneficial. The third research was conducted by Mehandi Vinayak Mahajan and Kalpana R entitled “A Study of Students’ Perception about E-Learning”, 2018. This result of the research showed that implementing e-learning would improve performance in 99% students with 74% M and 53% F indicating better understanding of the course. The last research conducted by Tamara Almarabeh entitled “Students’ Perception of E-Learning at the University of Jordan”, 2014. This study implies that the students are highly qualified and accepting the E-learning system with the desire to use it in more advanced manner. Nevertheless, studies in the field of E-Learning were much more conducted, while studies investigating the student’s perception about e-learning in pandemic era remain limited.

This study proposed a research question: “What are the students’ perception towards E-learning in Pandemic Era at English Education Study Program of IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai? This question is designed to know and identify the students’ perceptions towards E-learning in Pandemic Era at English Education Study Program of IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai. The results of this study could inform other lecturers in IAIM Sinjai and others High Education on what student’s perception toward E-Learning in Pandemic Era.

2. Method
2.1 Type of the Research

The researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method in this research. Descriptive research describes and interprets events, condition, or situation of the present. On the other hand, qualitative research is research method based on post-positivism and naturalist paradigm. It has some characteristics: (1) the objects observed are process and value; (2) most of data are words; (3) when collecting data, the researcher actively interact with the data sources; (4) the data are analyzed inductively; (5) the result of the research cannot be generalized; (6) the research is subjective and
related value. According to Fraenkel in Nabilah (2020:10-11), in qualitative research, the researcher investigates the quality of relationship, activities, and situation or materials. According to Elliot in Nabilah (2020:10-11) descriptive study is a research in which the investigator examines and report thing as the way are in an attempt to understand and explain them. The aim of descriptive research is to provide as accurate account as possible about what is the current practice, how learner do learn, how teachers do teach, what classroom looks like, at the particular moment in particular place.

2.2 Population and Samples
The population in this research were all students in English Education Study Program, Academic Year 2017/2018 of Faculty Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai that consist of 34 people, namely 8 male and 27 female. While the sample of this research is also 34 people by using Total Sampling technique. From the total samples, there were only 20 students who respond the interview.

2.3 Technique of Data Collection
The researcher collected the data by did some steps:
   a. Interview the students who are chosen.
   b. Made transcription from the interview.
   c. Encode the collecting data.
   d. Classifying the students’ perception toward E-Learning based on the advantages and disadvantages of using E-Learning.
   e. Analyze the students’ perception toward E-Learning at English Study Program of IAI Muhamamdiyah Sinjai.
   f. Conclude the data

2.4 Technique of Data Analysis
There are many kinds of technique collection data. In this research, the researcher collect the data by using interview, coding, classifying, and documentation.
   a. Interview
      In this research, the researchers used online semi structured interview by using Whatsapp to asked the students of English Education Study Program.
   b. Coding
      After interview, the researchers encodes the collected data. In this study, the researcher code the collecting data used letters and numbers.
   c. Classifying
      Classifying is the smallest unit of the collected data. In this step, the researchers classified the results of students’ interviews that did by the researchers.
   d. Documentation
      Documentation used as evidence to proof the result of research. In this research, transcription of interview and screenshoot of WhatsApp used as documentation.

3. Result and Discussion
3.1 Result
From the analysis of the interview transcripts asked about the students’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era, most of the students stated that the online learning was ineffective, but some answered that it was effective. It can be seen of the following extracts from the result interview of the English Education Study Program Student.
Extract 1:
Persepsi saya tentang pembelajaran daring pada masa pandemi yaitu Saya seorang mahasiswa mendapatkan dampaknya yaitu kadang proses belajar tidak efektif dan kadang ada pekerjaan rumah yang belum terselesaikan ... Kadang ada yang terkedal oleh jaringan atau pun fasilitas untuk belajar daring itu sendiri tidak ada. (FRA, September 21, 2020)

Extract 2:
Persepsi tentang pembelajaran daring di masa pandemi ini - Jaringan yg langsung hilang kemudian bagus lagi. Jawaban yg seharusnya harus kita jawab dulu justru menjadi jawaban terakhir karena faktor jaringan yg buruk, mengisi daftar hadir yg seharusnya urutan nama paling atas malah dapatnya yg tengah.. Jaringan yg menjadi penghambat dalam kuliah daring ini maam dan yg paling penting adalah kuota maam - Jaringan yg langsung hilang kemudian bagus lagi. Jawaban yg seharusnya harus kita jawab dulu justru menjadi jawaban terakhir karena faktor jaringan yg buruk, mengisi daftar hadir yg seharusnya urutan nama paling atas malah dapatnya yg tengah.. Jaringan yg menjadi penghambat dalam kuliah daring ini maam dan yg paling penting adalah kuota maam... (RYR, September 21, 2020)

Extract 3:
.... Daring mnurut sya ada bagusnya ada juga tdknya Ma'am,,bagusnya itu trgantung siswa yg mau aktif Ma'am,,sdngkan tdknya itu tdk trlalu puas bda jauh sama luring .... (NMW, September 21, 2020)

Extract 4:
.... menurut saya maam ada bagus dan tidaknya. bagusnya itu untuk teman2 yg mager ke kampus bisa join melalui wa atau sejenisnya sedangkan yg tidak bagusnya itu maam masalah jraingan :(. kalau daring susah di mengerti juga maam mtrrinya..... (MMI, September 21, 2020)

Extract 4 shows that MMI’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era had positive and negative perception. The positive perception of the extract above can be seen from the statement who said that “the good thing is for friends who are lazy to go to campus, they can join via WA or the like”, while the negative perceptions can be seen from the statements who said that ‘the bad ones are network problems and the material is difficult to understand”.

Extract 2 shows that RYR’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be conclude from the extract above that RYR said the main obstacles in online learning were unstable network and the expensive of the internet quotas’ price.

Extract 3 shows that NMW’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era had positive and negative perception. The positive perception of the extract above can be seen from the statement who said that “the good thing depends on the students who want to be active”, while the negative perception can be seen from the statement who said that ‘the bad impact is not too satisfied of the learning”.

Extract 4 shows that MMI’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era had positive and negative perception. The positive perception of the extract above can be seen from the MMI’ statement who said that “the good thing is for friends who are lazy to go to campus, they can join via WA or the like”, while the negative perceptions can be seen from the statements who said that ‘the bad ones are network problems and the material is difficult to understand”.
Extract 5:

...Menurut Saya ma'am kuliah daring selama pandemi ini kurang maksimal, dimana banyak kendala yang dialami para Mahasiswa baik dari kenyamanan belajar maupun hal lain... (SWY, September 21, 2020)

From the extract 5 above shows that SMY’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the SMY’ statement above who said that “studying online during this pandemic was not optimal”.

Extract 6:

... Tanggapan saya mengenai pembelajaran dering selama pandemik ini..sangat tidak efektif....(ERN, September 21, 2020)

Extract 6 above shows that ERN’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the ERN’ statement above who said that “online learning during this pandemic was grossly ineffective”.

Extract 7:

... Permasalahan nya seperti jaringan yg kurang memadai, serta materi ajar yg kurang efisien. Jadi menurut saya pembelajaran tatap muka lebih efisien daripada pembelajaran daring.... (CFT, September 21, 2020)

Extract 7 above shows that CFT’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the CFT’ who said that “the problems include inadequate network and inefficient teaching materials”.

Extract 8:

... pembelajaran daring pada masa pandemi merupakan hal yang sangat tidak efektif..... (AAM, September 21, 2020)

From the extract 8 above shows that AAM’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the AAM’ who said that “online learning during a pandemic was very ineffective”.

Extract 9:

... Sangat tidak suka ma'am...... (NRR, September 21, 2020)

Extract 9 above shows that NRR’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the NRR’ who said that “I really do not like...”.

Extract 10:

.... Menurut saya pembelajaran daring tidak terlalu efektif miss karna jaringan di rmah kadang kurang mendukung....... (YLN, September 21, 2020)
Extract 11:

From the extract 10 and 11 above show that YLN and WPS’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from the YLN and WPS’ statements who said that “I think online learning is not very effective because...” and “In my opinion, online learning is very in effective...”.

Extract 12:

Extract 12 above show that NAF’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era had positive and negative perception. The positive perception can be seen from NAF’ statement who said that “…online learning process during the pandemic was efficient enough to prevent Covid-19 transmission” while the negative one can be seen from the statement who said “there were many obstacles such as network and lack of quota become barriers to gaining knowledge”.

Extract 13:

Extract 13 above show that AIR’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. The negative perception can be seen from AIR’ statement who said that “...there were many complaints, especially from students, both in terms of quotes, unsupportive signals, and facilities in the learning process...”.

Extract 14:

Extract 14 above show that NAE’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from NAE’ statement who said that “..it is very far from the maximum or effective learning ...”.

Extract 15:

Extract 15 above show that SRS’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from SRS’ statement who said that “..it gave me another burden that was even more difficult to deal with, such as network and quota problems...”.

.... Menurut saya pembelajaran daring sangat tidak efektif,...... (WPS, September 21, 2020)

.... Persepsi saya mengenai proses pembelajaran daring selama pandemi cukup efisien untuk menghindari penularan Covid-19 akan tetapi, banyaknya kendala seperti jaringan dan kurangnya paket data menjadi penghalang untuk menuntut ilmu... (NAF, September 21, 2020)

.... Ada banyak keluhan terutama dari mahasiswa entah itu dari segi kuota, sinyal yang tidak mendukung serta sarana dalam proses pembelajaran.... (AIR, September 22, 2020)

.... itu sangat jauh dari kata maksimal atau efektif yang kami dapatkan ilmu nya.... (NAE, September 22, 2020)

.... pembelajaran daring dimasa pandemi menurut saya memberi beban lain untuk saya yang justru lebih susah untuk dihadapi seperti masalah jaringan dan masalah kuota.... (SRS, September 21, 2020)
Extract 16:

From the extract 16 above shows that RMT’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from SRS’ statement who said that “the online learning process during this pandemic was not effective for me...”.

Extract 17:

Extract 17 and 18 above show that KKA and RFR’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from KKA’ statement who said that “online learning during the pandemic was very difficult, especially in terms of networking, and in my opinion, online learning like this was also ineffective...”, while statement of RFR said that “online learning in pandemic era was not effective/efficient...”.

Extract 19:

From the extract 19 above show that MRS’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era had a positive and negative perception. The positive perception can be seen from MRS’ statements who said that “the benefit was the students found out easier to explore learning that they do not know about on the internet or on social media”, while the negative one can be seen from the statement who said that “the drawback was that is required to the student awareness and also teacher control of students, which is very difficult to do...”.

Extract 20:

From the extract 20 above show that AMM’ perception toward E-Learning in pandemic era was negative perception. It can be seen from AMM’ statement who said that “the online learning process is still not optimal because...”.

3.2 Discussion

The result of this research study shows that most of the participants thought that the use of E-Learning in pandemic era was negatively, while some of them thought that it has positive impact also. The negative perception caused by some obstacles that faced by the students, namely: the limitation of network and internet quotes; unsupportive facilities, such as laptop and gadget or handphone; limited
time in interacting with lecturers. This perception in line with the types of perception according to Amalia (2018:9) stated that negative perception is disposed to focused on their own desires, trying to acquire and proved their self-worth. Many obstacles faced by the students in online learning cause the students felt dissatisfied with these situations. While the positive perception according to some of the students about the use of E-Learning in pandemic era were effective to cut off the chain of spreading covid among the students and the students can do other work while taking online lectures. This perception line with Amalia (2018:9) who stated that positive perception is a valuable present that prepares the self-confidence and power to catch on the world, to endure crises, and to focus outside oneself. It increases the construction of relationship and giving to others.

4. Conclusion

This study aimed to investigate the students’ perception regarding the use of E-Learning in pandemic era at English Education Study Program, IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai Academic Year of 2017/2018 setting The result of this research study shows that most of the participants thought that the use of E-Learning in pandemic era was negatively, while some of them thought that it has positive impact also. The results of this study could be a consideration by other lecturers at Faculty Tarbiyah and Teacher Training of IAI Muhammadiyah Sinjai in using E-Learning in this pandemic era to make online teaching more effective by using applications that are more accessible to students by taking into account all the economic consequences that students may experience

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