

AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS PERCEPTION ON ENGLISH LEARNING VIA ZOOM CLOUD MEETING AT SMP AL-HIDAYAH MALANG

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Abstract: This article is aimed at describing the students' perceptions about using Zoom Cloud Meetings on English learning in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. The research design in this research is descriptive qualitative research. The subject of this research is the students from nine A Class at SMP Al-Hidayah Malang. The instruments of this research are questionnaire and interview. The result showed that the students gave a positive and negative perception of English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting. This could be concluded that the students enjoyed and improved their English skills in English online learning online via Zoom Cloud Meeting. Some of the students also gave negative perceptions in English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting. The researchers concluded that most students had positive perceptions or agreed to use Zoom Cloud Meeting in online English learning activities in several aspects, such as frequency of use, complexity, or ease of use, also practice using Zoom Cloud Meeting application. Most students enjoy English learning during online learning so that students can improve their English skills.

Key words: Students' perception, Zoom Cloud Meetings, English learning.

INTRODCTON

According to Mohammadi (2010), online learning is usually referred to as the deliberate use of information technology and network communication in the teaching and learning process. Online learning can also be defined as the application of electronic systems such as the internet, computers, multimedia CDs which are purposed to reduce the amount of expenses. According to Goyal (2012), online learning can be interpreted as the science of learning without using paper-printed teaching materials. Online learning is the use of telecommunications technology to convey information for education and training. With advances in the development of information and communication technology, online learning has emerged as a modern educational paradigm.

One of the famous online learning platform is Zoom cloud meetings. It is an online meeting application with the concept of screen sharing. This application allows users to meet face to face with more than 100 participants. Not only on a PC or laptop, it can also be downloaded through a smartphone. So, students who have communication devices, such as smartphones, will benefit from the advancements of the internet technology in learning (Liu & Ilyas, 2020). Moreover, it can be done only by using a smartphone with various features installed

there. It advantageously supports the development of education, in this case, the communication process and the use of media in learning.

Previously, Shukri, Nordin, Shalleh, Raidzwan & Ahmad (2020) investigated the students' perception on synchronous learning using ICT tools to learn English. 250 students of University of Kuala Lumpur were selected to participate in this study. The findings indicated that students perceive online learning using ICT tools as beneficial. Moreover, they added, "Online synchronous learning can be a very powerful tool and a helpful one too in situations like what the world is facing now where people are forced to work from home and the students are not in campus." Similarly, the research of Rakhmanina, Martina, Friang, Syafryadin & Noermanzah (2020) also indicates that most students are interested in online learning. Respondents had positive perceptions of online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The conclusion is that online learning is considered to be more fun and flexible.

The researcher realizes that the role of media and applications facilitate the English learning process and are well-adjusted with the conditions for each student because of pandemic covid-19. The English learning process must more equitable to students. The researcher found that in using online learning, many alternative media or applications could be used to support the English learning process. The applications can be adjusted to media such as smartphones or laptops. Those applications obviously ease students and teachers in the learning process, especially, in this case, Zoom Cloud Meeting. However, the obstacles faced by the students are different such as the affordability of the gadget, the unfriendly interface, and signal conditions. Especially, from a financial perspective, because it requires an internet package to support learning, signals, and difficulties in understanding the maximum expected from each given task. The presence of these obstacles will undoubtedly lead to various perceptions from students.

One of the fields affected by the pandemic, which forces the students to learn via online, is English learning in SMP Al-Hidayah Malang. Many perceptions would emerge, such as the pros and cons of changing the English learning system amid Institutional policies that implement the Covid-19 pandemic online learning system.

In relation to the previous explanation, the researcher is intended to conduct qualitative research entitled "An Analysis of Students Perception On English Learning Via Zoom Cloud Meeting at SMP Al-Hidayah Malang".

METHOD

This research utilized descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive research is a research method that seeks to provide a systematic and careful understanding of the actual facts and nature of certain populations, with the aim of solving the actual problems currently facing them and collecting data or information to be arranged, described, and analyzed (Margono, 2010).

The population of the research are students of SMP Al-Hidayah Malang. Whereas the sample are the students from nine A Class. The samples were chosen by convenience sampling. The instruments used to collect data were from questionnaire and interview. The questionnaire which was used in this study aimed to determine the data to be observed. The questionnaire used is a list containing a series of statements with a number of items related to the case to be investigated. Meanwhile, the interview is guideline used to follow up the result from the questionnaire and provide more detailed information. The interview was held both written and oral to ask the opinion of the students. The questions related to the perceptions of the students on the effectiveness of Zoom Cloud Meetings in English learning during Pandemic.

In collecting the data about students' perceptions about using Zoom Cloud Meetings on English learning in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the researcher chosen triangulation method by using closed-ended questionnaire written interview, and oral interview to the students to obtain the data. In this research, the researcher analyzed the data using three concurrent flows including data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusion/verification (Miles & Hubberman, 1994).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

After the data were obtained, the researcher presented the findings in this subchapter. The findings presented the data from a research questions; firstly, what are the perceptions of the students of English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting at SMP Al-Hidayah Malang. The researcher displayed the findings obtained from online questionnaire and interview about the students' perceptions on English learning activities via Zoom Cloud Meeting. The questionnaire was given to 42 students.

Based on the findings above about students' perception of using zoom cloud meeting in online learning. Most of the students perceived positively in some aspects such as the uses frequencies, the complexity or the ease of the use, also the practical in using Zoom Cloud

Meeting. Some of the students also stated that in the online learning they enjoy the online learning system, also felt so saved and interested without wasting money and time to go to school. In addition, the student felt the English learning activities by Zoom Cloud Meeting was being efficiency amidst the Covid-19 pandemic also they could know more about the useful Internet and electronics. The previous research carried out by Ermawati (2020) found that the application used in online learning during the midst of Covid-19 pandemic was efficient because the application eases the students to conduct learning activities from home. It also has efficient cost and allows students to make efforts at their own learning activity. Almost all of the students said that the most streamline, enjoyable, and practical application to use during the pandemic is by online learning application.

Based on the findings, most the perception of the student at SMP Al-Hidayah Malang also perceived positively in other aspects such as technical operation in using of Zoom app, and several applications that used beside Zoom Cloud Meeting. Some of them stated in using Zoom Cloud Meeting, they felt that there is improvement on their English skill, the teacher gives interested content, by English video content, English music while during teaching and online learning activities. Students also have a favorable opinion of online English learning, claiming that it makes the process of English learning easier.

The overall data findings showed that the students gave a positive and negative perception of English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting. This could be concluded that the students enjoyed and improved their English skills in English online learning online via Zoom Cloud Meeting. Some of the students also gave negative perceptions in English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting. The students perceived negatively in terms of their difficulties and obstacles in using Zoom Cloud Meeting that caused by the bad signal that they faced in the process. It meant that there was various students' perception toward English learning via Zoom Cloud Meeting.

CONCLUSSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the results of the study, the researchers concluded that most students had positive perceptions or agreed to use Zoom Cloud Meeting in online English learning activities in several aspects, such as frequency of use, complexity, or ease of use, also practice using Zoom Cloud Meeting application. Most students enjoy English learning during online learning so that students can improve their English skills.

Unfortunately, some of the students said that during the online learning of English through Zoom Cloud Meeting, it did not work as expected. Students said that online English Learning was not effective because of the difficulties they encountered such as unstable network or bad signal and less interaction. They feel that in online English learning they cannot focus on learning and do not find a partner to learn, unlike face-to-face learning.

The suggestion showed that the teachers have to share more interesting materials that conducted during online English learning. The lecturers should also give dynamic methodological concepts to conduct the material which will be given to the students even though the situation was not comfortable because of Covid-19 pandemic.

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