NON-ENGLISH STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS ON THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA FOR LEARNING ENGLISH DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the Non-English students' perceptions on the use of social media for learning English during covid-19 pandemic. The researcher chose non-English students because the researcher wanted to know their perceptions when learning English through social media during covid-19 pandemic. Non English students are students who are not registered in the English department, and take English lesson as general compulsory subject. In this pandemic period, students spend more time using mobile phones, they are required to study independently. Students can use a platform that is easy to use anywhere and anytime. Therefore, the researcher conducted this study with the aim of knowing students' perceptions of the use of social media to learn English during the pandemic.

In this study, the researcher used qualitative approach with a descriptive qualitative design. The participants of this research were 30 students of fourth semester students' who have completed the English subject. The participants are 15 from Indonesian Language and Literature Education Department and 15 from Mathematic Education Department in University of Islam Malang. To know the non-English students' perceptions on the use of social media for learning English during covid-19 pandemic, an online-based questionnaire and an online-based interview were used as the methods of collecting the data.

The finding showed that non-English students had positive perceptions about social media. From the results of the questionnaire, non-English students they stated that YouTube is the most widely used social media for learning English, through YouTube they can improve their English skills. Besides YouTube, there are also social media that are commonly used to learn English, namely TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, and WhatsApp as social media to learn English during the pandemic. They said that social media provides various sources for learning English, these students can use social media to study anywhere and anytime. This situation makes them relaxed and motivated to study English more actively. Non-English students also mentioned some of the challenges when using social media, namely network connection problems, misuse of social media, inappropriate content or advertisements that distract them from focusing on studying.

In addition, this research was conducted online during pandemic. Therefore, it is suggested for future researchers to investigate students' perception on the use of social media for learning English to conduct face-to-face research to get detailed results.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of study, research problem, and objective of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definition and key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

These days, Social media platforms help students in communication, sharing information, and creating web content. Students could start their day on social media and even use it as something they shouldn't miss in their daily life. As for the meaning of social media as said by Kaplan and Haenlin (2010), social media is a category of digital applications that utilize the conceptual and technological bases of web 2.0 and enable the development and changes of user Created content material. Social media is a technology for information and communication tool that humans use to communicate online (Arif, 2019). There are many kinds of social media that we usually use in everyday life such as, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, etc. (Monica & Anamaria, 2014). Because social media is a free application, several of these social media are widely used by individuals, notably students and workers.

Social media can facilitate the learning process, especially for students who are learning English, social media can also make them study independently and of course they will be more creative. Learning through social media can help individuals enhance their English skills (Arif, 2019), such as Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. Students may get many English lesson from social media such as grammar, vocabularies, pronunciation, idioms, and so on (Erzad & Suciati, 2018). Social media is also a popular platform which is used by people of all ages and levels. According to Handayani, et al (2021), social media is a mobile application and web-based for creating and sharing content. This may include an

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exchange of words, pictures, videos, quotes, and so on. Through social media people quickly get information and also share information with others without spending a lot of time, they can also be used anytime and anywhere (Ayuningtyas, 2018).

Indonesia experienced a COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. This caused Indonesia to experience a pandemic, so the government imposed social distancing to halt the spread of the disease. Due to the pandemic, both students and teachers switch learning methods from face-to-face learning to online learning (Rerung, 2021). Online learning is one of the solutions needed by educators and students during this pandemic. According to Dhawan (2020) online learning is defined as a gaining knowledge of enjoy in a synchronous or asynchronous surroundings the usage of a selection of gadgets with internet access (mobile phones, laptops, etc). During online learning, students can practice speaking skills via WhatsApp without being besieged by other friends and without being frightened to make faults. Students can also learn through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter by posting or Writing words in English. And they can also learn through TikTok and YouTube to practice Speaking Skills, Grammatical Mastery, and so on. According to Namaziandost and Nasri (2019) who conducted research on Iranian EFL students and teachers that through social media can build a peaceful context for students who learn English freely without feeling awkward.

According to Ngonidzashe (2013) in previous study, the majority of students and educators use social media as a learning and teaching tool. The purpose of this study was because no one had conducted research in a developing country, namely Zimbabwe, regarding the challenges of social networking and students' perceptions of the use of social media in education. The study used a descriptive research design, with a questionnaire serving as the primary research tool, questions included demographics, challenges and perceptions. That data collected was analyzed using SPSS. From this research, it can be concluded that there are several challenges faced when using social media, namely privacy and

the encouragement of unproductive behavior. But despite these two challenges, students in Zimbabwe have a good perception of the use of social media.

Nazmunissa and Rachman (2021) had researched to investigating students' independent learning through social media during the Covid-19 pandemic situation. This research was conducted at a private university in Jakarta. It is a qualitative approach with 32 participant of first year students majoring in English Education Department. The sample of this research was taken by using purposive sampling involving who were carrying out online learning amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The data collected using online questionnaire that distributed through Google form and semi-structured interviews. From the research, it can be concluded that students experienced independent learning through social media during the Covid-19 pandemic. They also get many challenges when learning English through social media, including unstable internet connection, time management, difficulty finding appropriate content, and being too easily distracted.

Based on the previous research above, it has similarities with the present research, where this research raises the topic of using social media to learn English. However, this research differs slightly from previous studies where this study conducted research on Non-English Students' Perceptions. In this case, non-English students are students who are not registered in the English department, but English is a subject that is obtained in almost all majors. Researcher also wants to know the challenges when learning English through social media. To find out the perceptions and challenges in using social media, the researcher used a questionnaire and interview which was adapted from previous research. Therefore, researcher is interested to conduct the study entitled **"Non-English Students' Perceptions on the Use of Social Media for Learning English during Covid-19 Pandemic".**

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the background above, the researcher formulated the research problems as follow:

1. How are non-English students' perceptions on the use of social media for learning English during the covid-19 Pandemic?
2. What are the challenges related to using social media to learn English during the Covid-19 Pandemic of non-English students?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the research questions above, the purposes of the study are as follow:

1. To identify the non-English students' perception on the use of social media for learning English during the pandemic of covid-19.
2. To know the challenges of using social media for learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic of non-English students.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research aims to determine the perception of some non-English students on the use of social media to learn English during the pandemic of Covid-19. In addition, it is hoped that the results of this research can also contribute to understanding the role of social media in learning English.

a. For Learners

The researcher hopes this research can give some information about social media to learning English during covid-19 pandemic for non-English students. In using social media to enhance their language skills, they must be smart and clever in using social media.

b. For Lecturers

The researcher hopes that this research is beneficial for teachers who want to integrate technology, especially social media, into their learning methods.

c. For Future Researchers

The results from this research can be utilized as a reference and source of information for other researchers conducting related studies.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study focused on non-English students' perception on the use of social media for learning English during the Covid-19 pandemic, especially those who use social media such as Youtube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and WhatsApp as a media for learning English. To obtain the data, the researcher used questionnaires and interview which are adapted from previous studies.

Therefore, the limitation of this research is that it uses an online questionnaire that was created via Google form and distributed via WhatsApp, so that researchers could not monitor filling out the questionnaire directly.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to prevent misunderstandings, the researcher needs to define some important terms. The definitions of the key terms used in this study are as follows:

a. Students' Perceptions

According to Qiong (2017) in philosophy, psychology, and cognitive science, perception is the method of accomplishing cognizance or expertise of sensory facts. Students' perception in this study is non-English students' perception on the use of social media for learning English.

b. Social Media

Social media is a type of media that spreads through cell phones, computers, tablets, and a variety of other devices, allowing people to easily and methodically share their thoughts with others (Ubaedillah, et al, 2021). Social media in this study are the social media used by non-English students to improve their English, such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and WhatsApp.

c. Learning English

Learning is the process of acquiring knowledge about a subject or skill through learning, experience, and teaching. Learning English is the process of acquiring knowledge of English language skills. A variety of practical and user skills and knowledge of English as a user skill in four aspects, such as Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking.

d. Non-English Students

Non-English students are students who are not registered in the English department, and take English lesson as general compulsory subject.
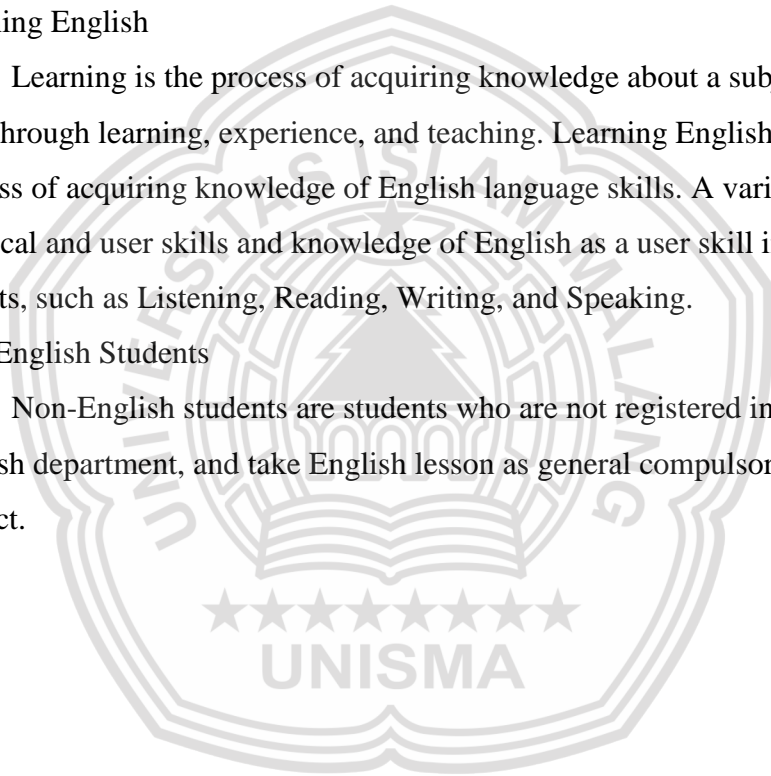
CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, researcher provides conclusion and suggestion for this study. Researcher draws simple conclusion from the finding and discussion in Chapter IV. In addition, the researcher will make suggestions to other researchers related to this research.

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the finding and discussion, non-English students' have a positive perceptions on the use of social media for learning English during covid-19 pandemic. They stated that learning English through YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, Twitter and WhatsApp can improve their Listening skill, Reading skill, Speaking skill, Writing skill, and enhance their vocabulary, pronunciation and grammatical mastery. Social media makes it easier for them to discuss material that they don't understand. Most of students agreed that through social media they understand English material, whether conveyed by lecturers or online teachers on social media. In addition, social media makes it easier for students to access various materials without opening books.

Finally, regarding to the data analyzed, the researcher concluded that using social media as supplementary support for learning English was beneficial to non-English students. In addition, students are also more motivated to learn English through Youtube, TikTok and Instagram. Thus, Non-English students' positive perceptions demonstrate the possibility of using social media as an additional assistance for English learning to improve students' English learning skills. In addition, the various benefits they get when learning to use social media, there are also some challenges in using social media when studying, such as inappropriate content, misuse social media when learning English, signal interference and privacy concerns.

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5.2 Suggestion

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher attempts to make some suggestions after completing this research. Hopefully, this research is useful to the readers. These are some helpful suggestions for students, teachers, and future researchers.

5.2.1 For Learners

Researchers hope the study can provide information on social media for non-English students to learn English during the Covid-19 pandemic. In using social media to improve their language skills, they must be smart and clever in using social media. In the sense of being smart in managing the use of social media while learning English without opening other content besides learning English content. Besides that, they must also be good at managing time while studying and time when having fun.

5.2.2 For Lecturers

When learning online or offline, lecturers are suggested to utilize more technology, especially social media, into their teaching methods. Social media applications can also be used as a form of online or face-to-face learning to assist students improve their English skills.

5.2.3 For Future Researchers

The result of this research can be used as a reference and information to the other researchers who conduct related studies. This research was conducted online during pandemic, therefore it is recommended for future research to conduct face-to-face research to get detailed results.

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