

Students' problems in English online learning during the pandemic of covid-19 at the seventh grade of Junior High School 3 Padangsidempuan

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research was to describe the students' problems in English online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 at the seventh grade of SMPN 3 Padangsidempuan. The purpose of the research is to know the students' problems in English online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 and to figure out the solutions of the students' problems in English online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 at the seventh grade of SMPN 3 Padangsidempuan. This research method is descriptive qualitative method by applying Miles and Hubermans' theory in analysing the data, the steps were; data reduction, data display and data verification/conclusion. The numbers of sample consist of 30 students. The instrument for collecting data is interviews and questionnaires. The data resource was taken from students' sheet of questionnaires and interview. After analysing the data, the author found 4 students' problems; 1) Difficult to understand the material, 2) The students feel unhappy, bored, depressed with too much assignments, 3) The material and teaching method of online learning was not adequate, 4) The students can't arrange their English lesson well. So, the solution for students' problem were; 1) Teacher design creative material and used attractive teaching method in English online learning, 2) The English teacher proactively contact students who are less active in participating in online learning, and personally contact the parents of those students, 3) Elaborate the online platform to teach English, 4) and Manage the Schedule to avoid students feel bored and minimize give assignments to the students. In conclusion the problems occurred relate to the student motivation, reinforcement, attention, memory and habit formation. Then, teachers and parents must pay attention to those students' problems in online learning and apply those solutions for better learning process.

Keywords: Students' Problem; English; Online Learning; Pandemic of Covid-19

INTRODUCTION

English has an important role to face globalization. Mastering English as a foreign language needs an appropriate teaching approach in order to get a good learning outcome at the end of the teaching and learning process. Nowadays, the situation of pandemic Covid-19 is still happening all over the world including Indonesia. This affected and changed all aspects of human life. Nowadays, phenomenon of Covid-19 has create a majo impact on education field based on the several findings in several research studies(Rahardjo & Pertiwi, 2020).

In education, this is in line with the governments decided to make a policy for every social activity to avoid the spreading of Covid-19 in every province and region in this country. This policy announced by the Ministry of Education and Culture in all over countries has implemented a learning policy, the name is learning from home (Masrul et al., 2020). The learning process deals with the use of technology through online learning. Online learning is a learning system without directly face to face between teachers and students(Allen & Seaman, 2007; Darmawan, 2014; Harputra, 2018). The use of various applications such as Whatsapp, telegram, zoom meeting, google

meet, google classroom, Edmodo, and others(Harahap et al., 2020; Meidipa et al., 2021; Ramadhani & Abidin, 2021). To support this online learning process, the main device needed is a computer and mobile phone connected to the internet network(Prabawati et al., 2021).

Based on observation at SMP Negeri 3 Padangsidimpuan, the implementation of learning from home or online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 was face some situations. There, the students who have online classes in learning English subjects used WhatsApp and google classroom. The teachers send the material of English subject by those online platforms on the schedule from school.

Moreover, the most issues among the teacher, students, and also parents in talking about learning online from home seem really hard to do efficiently(Coman et al., 2020; O'Malley & McCraw, 1999; Valentine, 2002). The teacher who gives the subject and explains it to the students must design the learning attractively and easy to understand because the teacher has a responsibility to make students understand the material. Distance is one of the big factors among teachers and students in giving good teaching and receiving a good response. Meanwhile, parents have another responsibility to control their children while having online classes learning from home which. Then, the students face the situation of learning online very differently from learning in the classroom. They have problems with how to focus on the subject and understand it well. Based on that fact, the writer will find out the real problems in English online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 at the seventh grade of SMP Negeri 3 Padangsidimpuan.

This research tries out to find the students' problems when learning English study from home or online learning during the pandemic of Covid-19 through various online platforms such as Whatsapp, zoom meeting, Google classroom, and so on. Then, to find the solutions to the student's problem through online learning during Pandemic of Covid-19 at the seventh grade of SMP Negeri 3 Padangsidimpuan.

METHODS

This study will be designed based on descriptive qualitative. Qualitative research is a system of inquiry that seeks to build a holistic, largely narrative, description to inform the researcher's understanding of a social or cultural phenomenon(Cohen et al., 2013; Creswell, 2012; Iskandar & Pd, 2009).

The population in this research is the students who the seventh-grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Padangsidimpuan which consists of 210 students. This research used clustering and random sampling technique to decide the number of samples(Kasenda, 2019). The writer only takes one class as the sample of this research. It consists of 30 students.

This study will be conducted as a case study. In order to collect the data for the research, participant observation and interview were conducted as instruments. The data will be analyzed using descriptive qualitative analysis by Miles and Huberman's technique. There are three main components to analyze the data, namely data reduction, data display, and conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After collecting the data of this research study, the writer analyzes the data to find out the result of this research about the students' problem of English Online Learning during Pandemic COVID-19 of junior high school students in SMP Negeri 3 Padangsidimpuan. The writer used 20 items of close questionnaires (multiple choice questionnaires).

Based on the analysis from the questionnaire above the students' problems of English learning online during pandemic COVID-19 are found as follows. The first problem is difficult to understand the material that was given by the teacher through an online platform. They can't find a deep concept to elaborate the material. In other words, the students can't learn maximal. The second problem is the students feel didn't happy while learning online process. It's very important for students to have a good feeling or happiness in learning process. Because its affect their learning outcomes in the end of the learning process. This problem also relates to the students' motivation in

learning actively. In another word, the students really won't study by online learning platform. They prefer to learn by directly or meet face to face with the teachers in the classroom. The third problem is the material of online learning was not adequate. The teacher gave the material of English lesson was only about a little explanation in written form which took from the printed book that they usually used in the school. Then, examples of the topic in written form, the last give a lot of assignment. This problem was caused by students feeling bored while online learning. The fourth problem is the students can't arrange their English lesson well. The time for learning was mixed by time for playing at home or outside. Because their time and place for online learning is available wherever they want, it makes the students can't focus on the lesson.

From the result of interviewed the students in order to get the answer related to their response by using of online English learning. The interviewed was not documented in written form. The writer recorded and the transcribe the students answer. So, relate to the student's problem of English online learning during pandemic of COVID-19 the writer reduced by chose the realted data with the research problem of this research, then show the data by using table then make a conclusion from the data analysis.

The student's answer was various based on four questions of interview as follows:

- 1) The first question responded by 26 students with the answer can't understand the material, can't maximal in learning, sometimes forget the schedules, feel free, and feel bore
- 2) The second question responded by 25 students with the answer is can't understand the material maximal, feel bore, feel depressed because too much assignments.
- 3) The third question responded by 22 students with the answer for liking online learning is feel free to study while for dislike it is feel bore and too much assignments.
- 4) The fourth question responded by 28 students with the answer is the teacher used creative method and design a creative material to learn. Then, minimize the time for online leaning.

The writer framed the most answer that relate to the research problem only. In the interview result the most of students face problems in English online learning process during Pandemic of COVID-19. To minimize the students' problems in online learning as in English learning process, the researcher figure outs for several solutions that can be applied by the teacher, as follows:

- 1) Teachers should be able to create and prepare learning materials as interesting as possible, as creative as possible and various teaching method. For example, by Presented the subject material in PowerPoint slides accompanied by videos.
- 2) The Problem of limitations on IT mastery, it can be solved by use simple platforms of nline learning such as: WhatsApp application. In addition, teachers have to always improve their IT competencies gradually, for example by attending related workshops, learning from another person who mastered IT field well. Another way to improve their IT skill is by Watching the video tutorial on YouTube that cntains many information aobout learning applications uses, the steps, and how to produce instructional videos.
- 3) To solve the problem of students who not active in learning procees the teacher can also proactively contact students then personally contact the parents to discuss the problem together and visit to those students' home directly for more intense communication among parents, students and teachers.
- 4) The English teacher assisted by guidance and counseling teachers tries to find information on what obstacles are causing the student to be inactive, by contacting the student's parents. If it is known that student is basically lazy, so the guidance and counseling teacher asks the student's parents to accompany him in online learning.
- 5) The English teacher should not give assignments too much with less examples and explanation in every material. This can be minimized by giving a meaningful assignment by exploring the

students intelligent based on the pandemic situation. This can be a good solution to avoid students feel bored and then they can enjoy the lesson.

- 6) Parent as the teacher at home should control the process of online learning. The very important thing is to pay attention about parents' control at home in order to avoid their children still focus to the lesson.

After analysis the data of this research from distributed questionnaire and interview the students, the writer provides some solutions for online learning or learning from home during the Covid-19 pandemic as follows:

- a. Safe, this is in line with the teachers' principle all over the world who strives to reduce distractions and losses in learning process.
- b. Realistic, the teachers should realistic in having an expectation in distance learning process then should be professional in judgement to assess the consequence of the lesson plan.
- c. Simple, online learning should be design in simple form and clear explanation to avoid the students feel bored while distance learning process.
- d. Meaningfull, the material in online learning should provide a meaningful learning experience for students by giving adequate material, creative teaching strategies and appropriate approach.
- e. Applicable, the teaching material that teacher presented should be focused on life skill education, prevention and handling the Covid-19 pandemic, and advice to have a clean and healthy living habits in daily life.

Those previous points are in line with Nadim Makarim's statement (Mendikbud, 2020) he said that the principle of education policy during the Covid-19 pandemic is to prioritize the health and safety of students, educators, education personnel, families, and society in general, and to consider the growth and development of students and psychosocial conditions in an effort fulfillment of education services.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study is to know and understand what the students' problems about learning English in online English learning during pandemic. Based on the research finding it showed that the online learning during the Covid-19 pandemic rise several problems which most experienced relate to the students. The occuranced of students' problems are in the form of less active in following learning, limited supporting learning facilities. Even this research only analysis the students' problem of English online learning, their problem also relates to teachers and parents. Teacher should be improving and pay attention to students' problem. Those various problems can be solving by implementing several suitable of the strategies.

Based on the data analysis and discussion in the chapter before, it can be concluded that most of students have problems in learning English by online learning. It can be seen that they most prefer to choose Luring that daring (online Learning). The problems occurred relate to the student motivation, reinforcement, attention, and memory and habit formation. The students answer most in category of disagree and totally disagree relate to the concept of material, learning maximal, Understand the material, Unhappy to study by online leaning is, Unhappy to study online learning because can't attend the class The material of Online Learning is not enough adequate, Online learning can't help you to arrange their lesson, study by online leaning.

The solution for students' problem in English online learning can be applied relate to the students, teacher and parents who have responsibility in the online learning process. Teacher design more creative material to teach in English online learning. The solution such as: Teacher used attractive teaching method in English online learning, Elaborate the online platform to teach English, Manage the Schedule to avoid students feel bored, minimize give assignments to the students, and Parent as the teacher at home should control the process of online learning.

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