

Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, there are several points that discuss the main problem of the research. The researcher explains the background of the research that describes the reasons why the researcher chose the research topic. The identification of the problems and delimitation of the study are explained in the next parts. The researcher also presents the research questions and objectives of the research. The benefits of the research for the teachers, the students, other researchers and the institution are provided in the section of significance of the study. Then, the researcher presents the organization of the chapters.

Background of The Study

Since Covid-19 has spread to Indonesia, all sectors including education sectors such as schools, university and educational institutions have implemented online learning policies to ensure student learning processes. Online learning during the pandemic has been carried out by all schools including senior high schools in Indonesia. Because many schools rarely implement online learning before, the obstacles during the implementation are likely to happen. The internet connection is the most required facility in online learning.

Abeyssekera and Dawson (2015) state that online learning must have and require a good internet connection. The other obstacles may relate to the problems of learning materials provided online, time constrains, students' interests and several other obstacles faced when doing online learning.

Recently one of the most popular educational technology in the teaching and learning process is the implementation of online learning. Online learning is a learning process that is specific to students in the online-based teaching and learning process. According to Horton (2012), online learning is the use of electronic technologies to create learning experiences, which means that learning is made more open so that it causes processes and ways to formulate, organize, and make learning experiences more freely done. In Indonesia, online learning has been implemented in all schools. Online learning has various models such as Blended Learning, Fully Online, web-based learning, and LMS. Teaching and learning processes carried out online can be provided using group discussions using WhatsApp, Google Classroom, zoom meetings, and Teams. Almost all teachers have implemented online learning integrated with face-to-face meetings. Online learning education enables students still get the knowledge from the teaching process especially when there are obstacles that the teacher cannot do face to face meetings.

With the implementation of online learning, the system of teaching and learning process is expected to run well in anyplace and anytime. There are many types of facilities that support online learning such as discussion forums, quiz, syllabus, materials, and forums for submitting assignment. In discussion forums, the teacher gives questions, and the students should respond the teacher's question or reply their friends' opinion based on their own opinion. The students can also submit their assignment that has been scheduled to the forum provided. However, these facilities in online learning do not always work as expected. In other words, the implementation of online learning may cause several challenges to the students.

There are various forms of online learning. One of them is Learning Management System (LMS). Online learning through an LMS can help plan, distribute and evaluate a learning process. Learning activities contained in the LMS enable teachers and students communicate and discuss through discussion forums. Teachers can give quizzes or assessments in the form of multiple-choice, essay, or answers. Students can upload their answers via the LMS. The Learning Management system is run by three actors, namely administrators who are in charge of recording students, recording subjects, compiling school schedules, recording textbooks, recording learning outcomes, and compiling materials. The teacher at the LMS is in charge of viewing material, uploading additional material, making quizzes, checking quizzes, uploading practice questions, and having discussions with students. Finally, students view learning material, download exercise material, do quizzes, and download additional material.

The implementation of online learning has several challenges as stated by several researchers. Rumini (2013) stated that the challenges in online learning occur because there are no achievements in online learning or students find it difficult for the implementation of online learning. In the implementation of online learning in the teaching and learning process, it has challenges that must be faced by students. According to Nursalam (2008), the implementation of online learning has lack of an interaction between the teachers as well as students or even between the students themselves. This tendency can ignore the academic aspects or social aspects. According to Bali and Liu (2018), the implementation of online learning has a lack of interaction between the students and the teachers than learning face to face in the class.

The more and wider challenges that the students possibly face during the implementation of online learning has interested the researcher to conduct a research on the implementation of online learning. The students' perceptions are very important in ensuring the quality of learning process, as the students are the most important subject who are affected by the implementation of online learning. Another reason why the researcher is interested in examining the perceptions of high school students regarding the use of online learning is that the previous studies have almost exclusively focused on the advantages of using online learning in the learning process. Therefore, the researcher has decided to do a qualitative study and focus on students' perceptions on the implementation of online learning in the teaching and learning process especially on the challenges faced the students. Because the challenges that exist in the application of online learning required the students to do some strategies, the researcher explored the strategies that the students used to help them in facing the challenges.

Covid 19 only accelerates online learning, so online learning is fully implemented, online learning has already been implemented at high schools in Yogyakarta. The researcher did her internship in one of high school in Yogyakarta and had a chance to observe the implementation of the online learning. The researcher noticed that the implementation of online learning there was carried out when the meeting time with the teacher was limited. The teacher then continued the teaching process using online learning such as for collecting assignments or learning materials that was going to be discussed in the following week. The implementation of online learning in the school where the researcher did internships showed several obstacles, such as students' lack of understanding

of the material provided online and disruption of internet connections which caused the students to be late in collecting assignments online. With the policy of using online learning since the pandemic era, the researcher believed that more and wider challenges in online learning have been faced by the students.

Statement of The Problems

As the purpose of online learning is to make students learn independently when face-to-face learning cannot be done, online learning can be an alternative learning method. However, this causes difficulties for the students. Before the pandemic, the researcher did her internship in one of the public schools in Yogyakarta and had a chance to observe the implementation of online learning. The application of LMS in high school uses the google classroom application and communication between students and teachers via WhatsApp. The google classroom application is used as a place to collect tasks or assignments. Based on interviews with several students, it turned out that students had not been able to participate in online learning optimally and well. This is indicated by the poor performance scores of students or decreasing grades. Another problem that often arises is the lack of students' understanding of the material provided through online learning. In addition, the issue of the internet which does not always support the teaching and learning process still caused the challenges. All challenges faced by the students should be overcome to make online learning run effectively and efficiently like learning in ordinary class. In encountering the challenges, the suitable strategies are needed. The strategies are various and usually depend on the students' preference and learning styles.

Delimitation of the Study

This research concerns on the implementation of the online learning at one of high schools in Yogyakarta. The research focuses on the challenges faced by students when doing online learning and the strategies are carried out by students when facing problems that occur when doing online learning. The data will be based on the students' perception on their experience in using online learning. The research will also be limited in terms of applying qualitative approach.

Research Questions

There are two research questions as the research guideline. The questions are:

1. What are the senior high school students' challenges in doing online learning?
2. What are the senior high school students' strategies to overcome the challenges in online learning?

Objectives of the Research

Based on the research questions above, the research objectives are:

1. To find out the senior high school students' challenges in doing online learning.
2. To find out the senior high school students' strategies to overcome the challenges in doing online learning.

Significances of the Research

In this research, the researcher explored the students' challenges of doing online learning and the students' strategies to overcome the challenges of doing online learning.

The researcher expects that this research provides the benefits to the teachers, students, next researchers, and also the institution.

The Teacher

The teachers will get the information on the students' challenges and strategies in doing online learning. Therefore, the teachers can make the students aware of the possible problems that the students may face and prepare the students to be ready for the implementation of online learning. The teachers can also guide and encourage the students to use more various strategies in online learning.

The Students

From this research, students are expected to know the perception of the students who have previously used online learning. Students will learn the challenges that were faced by the previous students in online learning and how they overcame those challenges. After the students know the challenges and the strategies in using online learning, the students can apply the most suitable strategies in overcoming their own challenges in using online learning.

Next Researchers

This research is expected to be useful as a reference from the next researchers who are going to conduct a research in similar topic. From this research, it is expected that the next researchers can get the information on the students' perceptions on the application of online learning. This research provides some theoretical bases as well as findings on the challenges and strategies that possibly can be used as basis to develop this research.

The Institution

From this research the school will get an overview of what is perceived by the students. The school will know their challenges and strategies in doing the online learning. The findings of the research can be used by the school as a consideration to make policy regarding the implementation of online learning. The school also can provide the best facility possibly needed by the students.

The Organization of the Chapters

The first chapter focuses on the background of the research. It describes the reasons why the researcher feels interested in choosing the research topic. The next part is identification of the problems followed by delimitation of the study. There are two research questions presented in this chapter, namely “What are the high school students’ challenges in online learning? and “What are the high school students’ strategies in online learning to overcome the challenges in online learning?” The following sections are the objectives of the research, the significance of the study and the organization of the chapters. The second chapter discusses the reviews on literature related to the research topic. This chapter explains the literature and theories that support the research including the definition of online learning, characteristics of online learning, components of online learning, the challenges of doing online learning, and the strategy to overcome the challenges. The third chapter discusses the methodology used in the research. There are seven sub-sections in chapter three, namely research design, research setting, research participants, data collection method, research instrument, data collection procedure and data analysis. This research used qualitative approach. It was conducted at a senior high school in Yogyakarta

involving six students as the participants. The fourth chapter discusses the results and discussion of research. The fifth chapter presents the conclusion and the recommendation of this research.