

Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher explains several points of the study. It presents the background of the research, identification problem, delimitation of the problems, research questions, and research significance. In short, the interconnection between Instagram and the process of learning would present in the background. Then, the research questions as a guideline for this research are also present. Finally, the significance of the research presents the benefits of Instagram to certain people. In this chapter, the researcher explains several points of the study. The last point is the organization of the chapter.

Background of the Research

The development of information and computer technology (ICT) influences our lives. Consequently, the internet cannot be separated from technological developments. By using the internet, people all over the world can be connected with one and another. All work can be done quickly, and all information can be found easily. The Internet also affects the world of education. The use of technology has developed rapidly, so it has succeeded in attracting people's attention. Some people use several technologies such as computers, smartphones, and other gadgets for supporting their daily life, one of which is learning process. Thus, internet technology has been used and widespread throughout the world due to its benefits.

One of the uses of ICT in language learning is social media. Puspa (2018) stated that "social media in the teaching and learning process is a teaching-learning

style and has many positive influences” (p. 91). The aforementioned condition can create good interactions inside and outside the classroom and provide online access where students can communicate internationally through social media. In teaching, “it is challenging to educate students to utilize social media” (Liu, 2010, p. 113). In using social media, students have an interest in learning, so they can learn languages using several social media. Therefore, many social media can be used by students in social and academic environments.

Furthermore, Instagram currently adsorb the students nowadays. Aloraini (2018) said that “Instagram is a social media application that supports audio, images, and videos” (p. 177). The Instagram’s users can share their accounts with family, friends, or other people if they want because they can control the account with a wide selection of features available in Instagram account settings. Erarslan (2019) stated that “Instagram has become an online application with educational purposes that is well suited to enable students to create, share and receive user-generated content based on student interests” (p. 55). Utilizing Instagram as an education tool, particularly for language learning, can be through videos posted by accounts that have language content, such as following learning in pronunciation video posts, posting photos, and live sharing English learning.

Based on the researcher’s observation, many students of English Language Education, Faculty of Language Education, specifically students of Department English Education in Islamic Private University in Yogyakarta, already have Instagram accounts. Some of the students are familiar with the Instagram, even though they do not have an Instagram account. Users can use features found on

Instagram such as uploading photos or videos, live, using many kinds of filters for photos or videos, photobooth, superzoom, hands-free, levels, layout, boomerang, and story highlights. Users can write something in English. Furthermore, users can share on their Instagram account. Activities carried out by users through their Instagram account are sometimes in the form of posting photos by writing captions in English and videos such as singing songs in English. Therefore, Instagram can be used as learning media to learn English.

Furthermore, the example of account that share content about language learning can be easily found in Instagram. For example, the @englishpix account is an Instagram where users can learn the tips for learning grammar, vocabulary to tips for expressing something in formal or informal situations using English. In March 2021, the @englishpix account had 446,000 followers. The account owner also posts photos with humorous words in English. From this account, everyone can learn English easily, and users can make some funny humorous posts so that people are interested in learning English. Occasionally, user post-English questions and some followers answer via the comment's section. The user also posted some videos for learning English. Through pictures, many followers can see the post and give like also leave comments just for enjoyment.

Another example is @bbclearningenglish. This account helps its followers to learn English skills. In March 2021, the @bbclearningenglish account has 2.8 billion followers. This account has more active followers than the @englishpix account. They share tips on how to speak English perfectly and many comments participated in the post. Instagram is a useful application for those who want to help

English language skills. Thus, it can be concluded that Instagram is a medium that can be used to help to learn English to be better.

Furthermore, there were several studies related to the use of Instagram in teaching and learning language process. The first research was done by Anggraeni (2017) this study aimed to describe students' perspectives on the use of Instagram in writing classes. The findings revealed that there were four benefits of using Instagram in writing classes, namely: encouraging students to be involved in the writing process, providing greater motivation, providing fun learning and making it possible to communicate and exchange opinions between students.

The second research is research from Ramadoni (2019) this study aimed to determine the impact of Instagram on the speaking ability of eleventh graders. From this research, the finding revealed that Instagram could improve students' speaking competence.

The third research is from Wulandari (2019) this study aimed to investigate the effectiveness of an Instagram Video Blog (vlog) on the speaking ability of EFL students. The findings of this study indicated that students could develop strategies for how to deliver oral presentations successfully and gain confidence to improve their English presentation skills in class.

There are three differences between this current research and previous studies. The first is the focus of research. Previous research focused on writing, speaking skills and English presentation skills. In the other sense, this study focuses on students' opinions of using Instagram for learning English. The second is the

method would use. The first and second studies applied quantitative methods. The third research used qualitative but focus on English presentation skills in class. This study applies a qualitative method, but it focuses on activity and advantages using Instagram for learning English. The third is the participants. Several related studies invited senior high school students, state university students, and students first semester at English Language Education Department. Meanwhile, this research use participant who are final year students from a private university in Yogyakarta.

Based on the research, students have used Instagram to learn English. Most of the students learn English using Instagram, but some of them use Instagram only for entertainment, for example seeing funny posts or comments. Indeed, Instagram has many benefits, one of which is to enhance English skills. Hence, the purpose of this study is to explore final-year student perceptions of using Instagram to learning English.

Identification of the Problem

Based on the preliminary interview done by the research to some students, the researcher found two categories of students when using Instagram. First, some students use Instagram to learn English. Second, some students use Instagram only for entertainment. The researcher only emphasizes on observing the perception of students toward the use of Instagram for learning English and student activities in using Instagram to learn English. Most students at Islamic Private University in Yogyakarta already have Instagram accounts.

The researcher was interested to investigate students' learning English using Instagram. This study, specifically, examines some of the advantages of Instagram for students' English learning. In addition, the researcher is concerned in examining the activities that students do to study English using Instagram.

Since Instagram has become very popular among students, many Instagram accounts create content related to learning English on Instagram. Thus, students can visit those accounts to help their English skills. The researcher wants to find out how students think about Instagram as learning media. Most of the private university students in Yogyakarta have used social media to help their English skills, one of which is Instagram. However, some problems can be found in using Instagram as an English language learning platform. The first obstacle is that Instagram is only used as entertainment. For instance, students view image posts that do have not any relation to English. Consequently, Instagram has not been used optimally for learning English. The second problem is interconnected with network and data usage. Most students live in areas that cannot be reached by signal, as a result, some students cannot access Instagram properly. Indeed, Instagram is an application that requires a lot of internet quota with a stable connection. Thus, some students are not interested in using Instagram due to the internet quota issue.

Delimitation of the Problems

In this current research, the researcher focuses on finding out the perception of final-year students about using Instagram for English language learning. Therefore, the existence of social media among students can be used as a means of

language learning. To make this research grounded, the researcher is limited to several aspects. First, the researcher only found the advantages of Instagram for learning English as perceived by final-year students. Second, this current research only found the activities carried out by final-year students in using Instagram to learn the English language. Third, the involved participants were six final-year students at a private university in Yogyakarta. The researcher delimits the setting in this study as to only final-year students' perception of using Instagram to learn English.

Research Question

In conducting this research, two research questions are used presented as a guideline of this research. The following are the research questions:

1. What are the advantages of Instagram for learning English as perceived by final year students?
2. What are the activities of final year students in using Instagram to learn English?

Objectives of the Research

Instagram helps users to help their English language skills. Instagram users can help with their English skills, but there are some problems with it. Based on the aforementioned research questions, the objectives of the research question are presented as follows:

1. To investigate the advantages of Instagram for learning English language skills.

2. To investigate the activities of final-year students in using Instagram to learn English.

Significance of the Research

As this research explores the advantages of media social in learning English, it is hope that this research can useful for some parties. The advantages are presented as follows:

For students

This study provides information to students regarding the advantages of Instagram in learning English to facilitate learning abilities. Students can find out the advantages of Instagram when learning English and Instagram can be used by students with activities on Instagram to help their English skills. Therefore, students can use Instagram to help their English learning skills.

For teachers

This study helps in providing information on the use of Instagram as a tool in English lessons. In this study, teachers can find activities that can be used to facilitate student skills when using Instagram. Thus, teachers can use Instagram for teaching. In addition, Instagram can be used as a means of presenting a fun learning activity.

For other researchers

This research can help other researchers to find out information about the use of Instagram to help for English skills. This can be used as a reference for their research.

Organization of the Chapters

This research consists of five chapters. Each chapter has several main points that can help the reader to understand the research. Chapter one discusses the background of the research, identification of the problem, delimitation of the problems, research questions, objectives of the research, significance of the research, and organization of the chapters. Chapter two discusses the literature review. In the literature review, the researcher discusses the theories of learning English using Instagram, the definition of Instagram, a feature of Instagram, social media in learning English, the skills gained from learning English using Instagram, a review of related studies, and conceptual framework. Chapter three discusses the research methodology. This chapter consists of research design, and research settings which are divided into two types, namely: setting of place and time, research participants, data collection techniques, data collection instrument, data collection procedure, and data analysis. Chapter four discusses the findings and discussion. In this chapter, the researcher discusses the finding and discussion after conducting data analysis. Last, chapter five discusses the conclusions and recommendations. In this chapter, the researcher concludes from the results of this research and recommends this research for certain parties.