Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter discusses the background, scopes, and purposes. First, the researcher provides background information, including the reasons for selecting the title. Second, the researcher looks for issues that occur because of the chosen topic. Third, the researcher establishes a problem limit, after which the researcher formulates a problem formulation. The researcher next goes over the research's objective and benefits. Finally, the researcher outlines the research reporting system.

Background of Study

The World Health Organization (2020) declared that COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in 53.281.350 people from 219 nations and regions around the world. People's lifestyles, habits, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors have all changed because of the global pandemic. Furthermore, the pandemic has forced many schools to close, necessitating the completion of all teaching and learning activities at home. Everyone should stay at home, avoid crowds, and maintain a safe distance.

Teachers and students must adapt to new habits, including online teaching and learning. Teachers must innovate in the learning process in the current pandemic settings. Jamaluddin, et, al., (2020) argued that "One method of innovation is to implement online learning,". During a pandemic, online learning means that teachers and students do not attend school and instead teach and learn from home using technology. Online learning is a teaching effort in the new normal era.

The new normal era is a condition where all activities can be carried out as usual, but must comply with health protocols (Valentino, et al., 2021). Such as keeping a distance, wearing a mask, washing hands, and not crowding with many people. This is also supported by government programs that require the public to take vaccines as an effort to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus in the new normal era (Kemenkominfo, 2022).

After two years of being hit by a pandemic, now the world of education is starting to return to face-to-face learning. Many schools and colleges have made face-to-face learning mandatory for their students. However, several schools and colleges have regulations for their students to follow health protocols such as wearing masks (Has et al., 2021). Significant changes in environmental conditions can affect students' attitudes, such as COVID-19 in the new normal era. The normal era also had an impact with the appearance of a new Attitude variation. Namely, attitude when face-to-face learning and online learning.

Attitudes can result in positive or negative behavior. According to Getie (2020) attitude is a term that describes our thoughts and behavior related to learning. The attitude of a student cannot be isolated from language learning. Success in the target language depends not just on intellectual ability but also the learner's attitude toward language learning (Abidin, et al., 2012). According to the definition, attitude is thought to be a significant factor influencing language learners' motivation and success. This also applies to English learning.

English is a global language that must be mastered by someone. Learning English is seen as an important component (Bhaskar & Soundirara, 2013). English is increasingly associated with academic success for students in all fields as it becomes a more universal language (Rukh, 2014). Academic success in English classes is influenced by the positive or negative attitudes of these students. Student attitudes are very influential on the success of language acquisition.

One of the private high schools in Mimika Regency, Papua, Indonesia has started implementing face-to-face learning in the new normal era. During the pandemic, the school implemented a full online learning system. However, after the new normal period, the school changed the learning system from online learning to face-to-face learning at school by complying with the health protocol. The transition of the learning system from online to offline brought several problems faced by students at the school.

Identification of the Problem

In this new normal era, learning that was initially carried out online was then transferred to face-to-face learning at school. Based on the preliminary interviews, there are many differences or problems faced by students from learning that is done online and then done offline. The problem faced by students when online classes take place is that the focus of students is divided. When online learning takes place, students do not take the lesson seriously, such as playing on their cell phones, falling asleep during class, and playing games.

An informal interview with one of the students in Papua showed some problems. Familiarity with the habits that occur during online learning makes students not focus on face-to-face learning. Students tend not to pay attention to the teacher when explaining the material. Then when given a task, students cannot complete the task perfectly because they do not understand the task given. This can have an impact on their learning outcomes. Especially in learning English as a foreign language.

Delimitation of the Problem

From the problems that the researcher discussed earlier, the focus of the research is the correlation between student attitudes in the new normal era on student academic achievement. The target of this research was grade X and XI students at one of the senior high schools in Mimika, Papua, Indonesia. The research design used by the researcher is correlation design.

Research Questions

From the explanation above, the researcher wants to research:

1. How is the student's attitude towards learning English in the new normal era?

2. How is the student's academic achievement in the new normal era?

3. Is there a correlation between students' attitude in the new normal and students' academic achievement in EFL class?

Research Objectives

The objectives of this research are:

1. To determine the views of students towards learning in new normal era.

2. To find out the student's academic achievement in the new normal era.

3. To find out the relationship between student attitudes in the new normal era and student academic achievement.

Significance of the Research

The usefulness of the research findings for students, educators, and institutions is covered in this section.

Students

The results of this study are expected to provide a broader picture of the correlation between student attitudes and student academic achievement. In addition, it is hoped that students will be more aware of their attitudes, so that they can give their best in learning to support their academic achievements.

Teacher

This study helps teachers identify students' academic performance and decide teaching strategies related to approaches to support students in managing their academic performance.

Institutions

This study helps institutions to prepare everything that supports the learning process in the new normal period so that the program runs smoothly.

Organization of the Chapter

The structure of this research consists of five parts. Chapter one, the researcher explains the introduction of the research, which consists of the background of the research, identification of the problem, delimitation of the problem, the research questions, the research objectives, the significance of the research, and the outline of the research. Chapter two contains a literature review of research on student attitudes toward academic achievement in the new normal era in the classroom. The literature review describes the "new normal" era, describes attitudes, attitudes in learning, and attitudes toward EFL achievement. In addition, chapter two includes previous studies related to research. Chapter three presents the research methods, including research design, research settings, data collection methods, data collecting procedures, research instrument, and data analysis. Chapter four describes the results of data collection, analysis of data, and discussion of the research. Chapter five contains the conclusion of the results of the research.