

## **Chapter One**

### **Introduction**

This chapter presents a comprehensive summary of the study. This section encompasses numerous crucial aspects. This section provides an overview of the research's context, the identification and definition of the problem, the research inquiries and goals, and the significance of the research. In the last section of this chapter, the researcher examines the pivotal aspect of the investigation.

### **Research Background**

Media functions as a communication tool when individuals have knowledge about it. Media functions as an intermediary between the sender (source) and the recipient (target) of communication. Combining media can take the form of prints, film clips, photos, drawings and paintings, which are several types of visual media that display moving images or symbols. Visuals featuring symbols or moving images are also available. This includes cartoons and silent films. Different from other types of media, audiovisual media has sound and images. This type of media has more features because it includes features from the first and second media groups. The presence of audiovisual media can improve English language skills. In line with the previous statement, Suleiman & Maniam (2019) states that video films can be an effective way of learning the target language.

One of the functions of media is as an aspect of communication.

According to Leonnard et al.,( 2015), learning media can be described as an intermediary instrument in the learning process. Learning media is everything that teachers use to make students interested in what they are learning in class.

Therefore, one of the easiest ways to increase the enthusiasm for independent learning is to consume popular English-language films and dramas (Wang, 2012)

Various types of video images such as English language films and dramas are of highlighted by educators and researchers because they can improve students' learning experiences (Tleuzhanova et al., 2021). This brings forth the significance of Netflix as a big name in the film and TV streaming business (Hamalik, 2013).

This service on Netflix is considered to provide many benefits for EFL students.

According to (Ismaili, 2015), films as one of the facilities on Netflix offer opportunities for English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners to observe the social dynamics of communication.

As a provider of English language films, Netflix can also be a source for discussing advanced language learning pedagogically in a broad sense. While watching, English learners can use subtitles to improve their vocabulary.

Practicing spoken English through watching films will make understanding easier.

It is easier to memorize sounds and acquire the correct pronunciation of certain phrases by listening. By utilizing Netflix as a learning tool to help EFL students develop independent learning, the need for learning media can be met. This has a positive impact on students. The researcher consulted a number of previous studies, the first of which was (TAMPI, 2018) which sought to find out the

perspectives of students majoring in English at the University of North Sulawesi regarding the use of English language films to improve their independent learning. Students can effectively improve their independent learning by watching films, according to this research. Apart from that, Netflix is a service that students can use for independent study, because its easy access, affordable costs, and diverse content make Netflix a very suitable independent study tool for students. Therefore, the researcher aim was to gain sufficient understanding of English students' independent learning practices, specifically examining the use of Netflix as a means to improve independent learning abilities.

### **Identification of Problem**

This study aims to investigate the potential benefits of Netflix for English as a Foreign Language (EFL) students in independent learning. According to Metruk, (2018) the use of podcasts and Netflix to improve listening skills and practice speaking has proven beneficial. Students can improve their language skills through independent study by using Netflix as a learning tool. Netflix helps students in independent learning, thereby improving their understanding of the English language. Netflix essentially serves as a digital platform for individuals to learn English as a foreign language (EFL). As this research aims to shed light on students' strategies for using Netflix in independent learning, it will focus on the experinces and strategies that can be traced back to the usage of Netflix. This research intends to utilize Netflix films to improve students' language learning, specifically focusing on independent learning skills.

### **Delimitation of the Problem**

This study aims to determine the potential of Netflix in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) as an independent learning medium for students. The researcher will limit the study on assessing students' ability to engage in independent learning by examining independent learning practices through the consumption of Netflix episodes and movies. This study investigated the college students of English majors at a private institution in Yogyakarta. The researcher used a qualitative research approach and recruit four students from the 2021 class who are studying English with specific requirements to met the appropriate context for the study.

### **Research Question**

1. How does Netflix support EFL students in learning English through independent learning?
2. What strategies do EFL students use to learn English for vocabulary through independent learning by Netflix?

### **The Objectives of Study**

Based on the research question is obtained, the main purpose of this research is to discover students' perception on the use of Netflix as media for improving students independent learning at EFL. This research is conducted to discover two purposes as follow:

1. The aim is to find out the strategies used by EFL students engaged in independent learning of English through Netflix.
2. To understand how Netflix support EFL students in independent learning of English

## **Significance of the Research**

This research provides an explanation of the significance of this study based on students, teachers, and future researchers. Each significance explains each section. The significance of the research is as follows.

### ***Students***

This research aims to explore how Netflix facilitates EFL students' independent learning. This research aims to provide important insights for those wishing to increase their understanding of Netflix as an educational tool.

### ***Teacher***

This research is able to provide information to teachers regarding the usefulness of Netflix for independent learning. Therefore, teachers can provide strategies for students to learn independently using Netflix. In addition, teachers have a significant role in the continuity of learning by introducing Netflix as one of the tools that can help students to learn independently.

### ***Future Researchers***

This research is intended for future research. This research can provide a new perspective on media as a means of independent learning, by showing insight on how independent-learning able to increase vocabulary competence and fluency.

## **Organization of the Chapter**

This study has five chapters, each discussing different topics. The first chapter is titled as the introduction, the second chapter is the literature review, the third is the research methodology, the fourth chapter being

findings and discussion, and then the last chapter is the conclusion and recommendation.

The first chapter introduces the research, which consists of the research background, problem identification, problem delimitation, research question, research objective, the significance of the study, and the chapter's organization.

Chapter two is a literature review. This chapter provides information about independent learning as a general concept, Netflix as a general concept, and independent learning that utilizes Netflix as the middle-ground, which supports learners on Netflix. This chapter presents theories related to an overview of the use of Netflix independently. Furthermore, also showing previous study related to the topic.

Chapter three discusses research methodology. This chapter provides a clear overview of the research design, participants, setting, data gathering instruments, data analysis, and the data validation. This is to show how research was conducted, how the data was collected, and how the data is checked for trustworthiness.

Chapter four discusses finding and discussion. This chapter provides an explanation of the findings from the research that has been carried out. This chapter also brought the discussion of the findings, which resulted in insights about the potential Netflix has on independent learning such as: authentic language exposure, multimodal learning support, learner autonomy promotion, vocabulary expansion, listening skills development, and cultural

learning. Furthermore, the study displayed several strategies of independent learning using Netflix that can be utilized to gain the benefits beforehand through practicing pronunciation by its audio-visual tools, choosing appropriate movies that matches, and discussing the media along with acquaintances for further insights.

Chapter five discusses conclusions and suggestions. This chapter explains the conclusions of the research conducted. This chapter also discusses suggestions from researchers for further research.