

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter presents the introduction of the study. There are several important points mentioned in this chapter. The background of the study explains about the urgency and rationale for conducting the research study about the use of digital reading in learning English language among students of English Language Education Department (ELED) at an Islamic Private University in Yogyakarta. The identification and limitation of the problem are used to state the limitation of the topic being studied. Besides, the research question becomes a guideline of the research study followed by the objectives of the study. The significance of the research is explained as well. In the last part of this chapter, the researcher mentions the organization of this research.

Background of the Study

In language learning process, the use of learning media is important to make the learning more effective and interesting for the students. There are many kinds of learning media which can be used by the students as a tool of their learning process. Besides, learning media becomes an important tool to attract the interest of the students in learning language. Learners get benefit from the use of media when its capabilities are employed with the instructional method to provide presentations and cognitive operations which are salient to the task and the situation (Kozma, as cited in Hastings and Tracey, 2005). Sometimes, the students feel less motivated in learning because the learning media is not

interesting for them. Hence, the use of learning media is important when the students are in learning process. Additionally, the use of learning media which is appropriate for the students makes the process of learning become effective and interesting in teaching and learning process.

In this era, the development of technology can support the students' learning process. Gil-Torres, Gordillo, and Rodriguez (2012) stated that "The expansion of new technologies has made accessibility of computers at school to today's students possible". Besides, the development of modern technology comes up very significant into the learning process. The modernization of technology brings various positive impacts toward learning media used by majority of students. The examples of positive impacts in using technology toward learning media include the ease access to find out various learning media which are appropriate for the students to support their learning process.

One example of utilizing technological advancements for learning English is the use of digital devices for reading. This activity is called digital reading. Hillesund (2005) defined that the digital reading comes as reading activity on display units connected to computer system, such as desktop computer screen and screen on handheld computer. Digital reading becomes trends in students' learning habit as a learning tool to increase the students' comprehension in English. Regarding the statement mentioned, it was in line with Miler & Bosman as cited in Ortileb, Sargen and Moreland (2014) that "interest of people in reading digital reading has sky rocketed, evidenced by retailers selling more e-book than printed book" (p.397). Following this, digital reading can be an effective learning

activity which can be used by students to improve the students' reading comprehension. As stated by Moran, Ferdig, Pearson, Wardrop, and Blomeyer (2008) that "digital tools affected positively toward reading comprehension" (p.69).

In learning English, the use of digital reading gives benefits for the students. The statement mentioned was in line with statement from Coiro as cited in Margolin, Toland, Driscoll, and Kegler (2013) who said that reading through digital form brings great benefit from the advances in technology. As mentioned by Brueck, Lenhart, and Roskoshere (2019), there are three benefits of using digital reading in learning English. The example of benefits are mobility to access in anytime and anyplace through mobile device, easy to save and classify many reading book, and easy to distribute to the other readers.

Moreover, the use of digital reading in learning also happens to the students of English Language Department (ELED) of a private university in Yogyakarta. Besides, digital text becomes one of learning media used by the students of ELED. Digital text is used as a tool both inside and outside learning in classroom activity. Regarding the advantages of using digital reading in previous paragraph, digital reading becomes reason used by the students for learning English.

Sometimes, there are some challenges for ELED students when they do the digital reading. Firstly, the focus of students when do the digital reading. From experience of some students, the students find the difficulty to focus and more easily lose concentrate on the material they are reading. Sometimes students are

tempted to do other things while do the digital reading like playing games, opening other applications, or surfing the internet when their devices are connected to the internet. Secondly, the students face the difficulty to highlight the important point and sentence when they do the digital reading. It's more difficult for the student to do in digital media rather than in printed media that student can use highlighter. Then, the next challenge is the visual of the digital reading device. Some students sometimes feel more easily tired and sleepy when reading through digital devices. This may be affected by visual problems such as contrasts that are too bright, and also sentences that are too small. This is a problem that is quite annoying because it causes the process of reading to be not optimal. Therefore, in regards to the phenomena mentioned above, the researcher is interested in conducting the research on finding out the use of digital reading in learning English language.

Identification of the Problem

The use of digital reading can be used by students as a learning media which can improve their proficiency level. Based on the researcher's experience, the use of digital reading in English language learning give the benefits and challenges toward it users. On the other hand, there are challenges faced by the students while using of digital reading in English learning language. Many students feel that they often lose focus because of some distraction when doing digital reading. Sometimes students are tempted to open other applications such as playing video games, surfing the internet, or doing other activities that can be done with their digital devices. These examples of disruption may negatively

affect the process of understanding the reading material they are learning. For the benefit of digital reading, its ease the student to access the reading material anytime and anywhere they want. They can easy to access the reading material in any condition without carrying a lot of reading material. Based the statement mentioned, it is a reason why students prefer doing reading in digital form than in printed material.

Limitation of the Problem

To make this research more focused, the researcher makes the limitation of the problems. Firstly, the researcher wants to find out the benefits of using digital reading when they learn the English. Secondly, the researcher wants to investigate the problems faced by students when they learn through digital reading.

Research Questions

This research is intended to answer the following questions:

1. What are the benefits of digital reading among ELED students at a private university in Yogyakarta?
2. What are the problems faced by ELED students in using digital reading at a private university in Yogyakarta?

Research Objectives

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

1. To investigate the benefits of digital reading among ELED students in learning English language at a private university in Yogyakarta.
2. To find out the problems faced by ELED students in using digital reading at a private university in Yogyakarta.

The Significances of the Research

This research is aimed to give positive advantages for some parties such as researcher, students, teachers, and other researchers.

For the researcher. By conducting this research, the researcher can know about the problems of using digital reading in learning language. Besides, this study can give the understanding on how to use digital reading in learning English language as one of effective learning media to students for the researcher. By understanding the finding of this study, researcher can know the benefits of the use digital reading for English learning process and strategies to solve the challenges when using digital reading.

For the students. From this research, the students can know and understand about the learning media used to improve their English proficiency. By knowing about the use of digital reading, the students can apply the strategies to solve the problem when using digital reading on their English learning process when it is necessary.

For the teachers. This research can help the teachers to select the media used for their teaching and learning process. By knowing the benefits of digital reading teachers can consider using digital reading as learning media for their students in the classroom. Moreover, this research can be an evaluation for the teachers on how the teacher should teach and introduce the digital reading used for the students in teaching and learning process.

For other researchers. By conducting this research, the researchers can know the benefits and problems used in using digital reading in the classroom

activity. The finding of this research can be used as source of learning. Besides, other researchers can use the finding of this research as the theoretical overview of further research on the same topic and might become a recommendation of further research. Therefore, by conducting this research, it can also encourage the researchers to conduct the researches related to the same area of this research.

Organization of the Research

This research consists of five chapters which explain an overview of each research chapter. Chapter one consists of the background of the research, identification and the limitation of the problem, research question, significances of the research, and the organization of the research. In the background of the research, the researcher conducts this study because the researcher was interested in the use of digital reading in learning English language. Also, the researcher was interested in finding out the benefits and problems in using digital reading in English learning process. For the limitation of this study, the genre of digital reading that was investigated for this research includes any English reading text which accessed through digital device. In this chapter, it includes two research questions.

The second chapter of this research presents the literature review. In chapter two, the researcher discusses theories related to the use of digital reading in learning English language among the students of ELED of a private university in Yogyakarta. In this chapter, it discusses about the kind, features, and function of digital reading. This chapter also presents about definition and challenges in learning language and the significances of using digital reading.

Chapter three presents the methodology used in this research. In this chapter, the researcher explains the procedure in collecting the variables of data. There are four parts discussed in this chapter. The first part includes the design of the research. In this part, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative approach. Then, the researcher explains about the setting place where the data is collected. This research was conducted at ELED of a private university in Yogyakarta. Also, in this chapter, it discussed the way of the researcher in collecting the data. Lastly, this chapter presents about the procedure of analyzing the data.

In chapter four, it discusses the research finding and discussion. This chapter provides the detailed information about the data gathering from the conducted research and data analysis. Besides, the researcher also relates the finding to the relevant literature reviews or theories provided in this research to be the discussion of the research.

Chapter five includes the conclusion and suggestion. In this chapter, researcher presents the conclusion of the research finding related to the research problems. In addition, this chapter contains the suggestion for some parties related to this research.