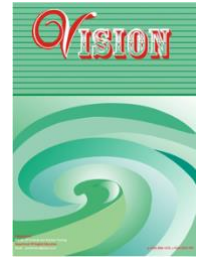




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E-ISSN 2745-7982



AN ANALYSIS REFLECTION ABOUT SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING USING ZOOM MEETING FOR EFL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF UIN SU MEDAN IN ONLINE LEARNING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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| Keywords | Abstract |
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| <p><i>Keywords:</i> <i>Reflection, Online Learning, Zoom Meeting</i></p> | <p>This study aimed to find the reflection about synchronous learning using Zoom Meeting for EFL university students of UIN SU Medan in online learning during Covid-19 Pandemic. This study used qualitative research with descriptive method. The data was collected through interviews. The participants of this research were ten EFL university students of UIN SU Medan. The result of this study is presented descriptively to reveal the students' reflections of Zoom Meeting comprehensively. The results of this study show that English online learning through Zoom Meeting has some benefits for students in their learning namely listening, reading and speaking, and students also faced some obstacles while using Zoom Meeting as an online learning medium.</p> |

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INTRODUCTION

After the Covid-19 outbreak hit the earth, the education system began to look for innovations for the teaching and learning process. Moreover, there is Circular Letter no. 4

of 2020 from the Minister of Education and Culture that recommends all activities in educational institutions must keep a distance and all material delivery will be delivered at home. Learning is now done by using gadgets or other online learning media to facilitate students in learning.

In the study that will be conducted, researchers chose to use the zoom meeting application. Zoom meeting is a popular application because it does not require a lot of memory if used online seminars, online meetings, and video conferences. Zoom cloud meeting (ZCM) is also an online meeting application that applies the concept of screen sharing.

Here researchers will only research about synchronous learning using Zoom Cloud Meeting, i.e. teachers and students learn at the same time, such as face-to-face at school or virtually by using video conference or chat technology. With synchronous learning, the interaction of learning is done immediately to increase the closeness between lecturers and students or between students and avoid feelings of isolation. Another benefit of synchronous learning using Zoom Cloud Meeting is direct communication that can minimize the occurrence of differences in understanding. Many users zoom meeting in conducting learning synchronously, ranging from the general public, students, students, teachers, and famous people to conduct seminars or chats that discuss serious things. Researchers will try to research the perception of students in UIN North Sumatra Medan related to synchronous learning using zoom meeting as a medium for learning. Students as the main subject in conducting online learning hope to benefit from synchronous learning by using zoom meeting as a learning medium. The role of students in conducting synchronous learning is very important in the success and process and sustainability of online learning implementation in Indonesia.

The application of online learning required by the government resulted in the development of methods and applications that make it easier for students to study anywhere and anytime. With online learning technology for education is growing and becoming the center of attention of the current government because of the implementation of a social distancing system where everyone is required to keep their distance. Many benefits have been found in learning online or with synchronous learning. In addition to the many successes and benefits that are very meaningful in advancing education in Indonesia, there are some obstacles faced by students in their lessons using synchronous learning.

The obstacles faced by students are about the independence of students in self- learning and not closely supervised by teachers, unstable internet connection in each area, insufficient costs in dealing with online learning, limited facilities and infrastructure in each student, lack of interaction of teacher communication and between students and lack of material understanding by students.

To find out the acceptance of online learning, researchers want to examine the perception of students in synchronous learning using zoom meeting as their learning medium, their satisfaction with synchronous learning that has been done, and opinions about their own experiences. It is necessary to investigate the application of synchronous learning. This study tries to find out students' reflections on online learning as well as their experience through synchronous online learning by using zoom meeting as their learning medium.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The writer discusses theoretically to support the topics. This will be the basic study. This will discuss the definition of reflection, the general of online learning, the general synchronous of online learning, the benefits of using zoom meeting for online learning, the information about Zoom Cloud Meeting, the information about COVID-19, and the previous study related to the research.

Reflection

Reflection is a learning activity that is by assessing the process during the learning. Reflections in the form of expressions of feelings, messages, and impressions of students during their study period. Students should not be under teacher pressure when giving their reflections. Students must be honest and open in conveying their reflections so that the burden of thoughts or feelings that disturb them can be conveyed properly.

Online Learning

Online learning is one of the teaching and learning processes that use the internet and digital media to deliver materials. The use of online learning methods can be easily accepted by students because the use of the internet and digital media is familiar to generations who are already familiar with advanced technology.

Online learning is a form of digitalization of education that has many advantages and is highly recommended in the situation of the Covid-19 pandemic era. In the use of online learning methods, teachers must have the ability to understand the materials they teach through online media used to teach, be able to master effective strategies in teaching, prepare lessons, be able to master interactions between teachers and students, understand the use of online media to evaluate effective learning outcomes.

Synchronous Learning

Synchronous learning is one where a group of students is all involved in learning at the same time. This means that classmates and teachers interact in certain virtual places, through certain online media, and at certain times. So, synchronous online learning methods include video conferencing, teleconferencing, live chat, and live-streaming lectures. The synchronous learning system allows students to ask questions directly to the teacher or student participants through a message. Also, it involves online studies which are carried out with the help of chat rooms. This kind of learning can only take place online.

Zoom Cloud Meeting

Zoom Cloud Meeting (ZCM) is a global network that aims to provide quality communication services. This application allows users to meet face to face with more than 100 participants. This application is easy to download via PC or laptop and smartphone. The use of this application is to accommodate work and learning that is done remotely. There are features in the zoom cloud meeting application that make it easier for users, namely HD video and audio, built-in collaboration tools, security, recording and transcripts, scheduling features, and team chats. The advantage of zooming in cloud meetings is that it can record and save without any other devices needed. This is of course very beneficial because data protection is a sensitive matter. It is also advantageous that Zoom Cloud Meeting features user-specific authentication security, time encryption, and backup of recordings to the online network or local drive and can be shared with peers securely.

METHOD

Research Design:

Qualitative approach is descriptive in which data is collected in the form of words or photos and not numbers. This research is intended to analyze students' reflections of strengths and obstacles when they have English online learning through Zoom Apps in the

form of descriptions that summarize the data obtained from some of the students involved.

Research Setting:

This research was conducted online because the Covid-19 pandemic did not allow the researcher to go directly to the field and the subjects of this study were the fourth semester of English Education in Islamic State University of North Sumatera. In collecting data, the researcher conducted interviews to get the students' reflection

Source of Data:

The data in this study were obtained from conducting interviews with the fifth semester of English Education students in Islamic State University of North Sumatera who had attended online English classes through zoom apps in the odd semester of the 2021/2022. The data is in the form of interview transcriptions.

Technique of Data Collection:

1. Interview: In this research, interviews were conducted by asking several oral questions addressed to the fifth semester students who were involved to obtain data and information about their reflections during online English learning using zoom apps.
2. Documentation: Documentation is the process of obtaining information or finding data about a matter in the form of notes, transcripts, books, agendas, and so on. Through documentation, the writer can analyze the validity of questions and observations filled out by respondents with existing documents.

Technique of Data Analysis

1. Data Reduction: Data reduction is a sensitive thinking process that requires broad and deep intelligence and insight. Reducing data means summarizing, choosing the main thing, focusing on the important, looking for themes and patterns.
2. Data Display: In qualitative research, data presentation can be done in the form of brief descriptions, charts, relationships between categories, flow charts, and the like.

By displaying data, it will be easier to understand what happened, planning the next work based on what is understood.

3. Conclusions drawing and verification are procedures for drawing conclusions based on information data arranged in a patterned form in data presentation. Through this information, the researcher can see and determine the correct conclusion about the object of research because the conclusion is a complete picture of the object of research.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In analyzing the data, the researcher found the advantages and obstacles that students felt when they used Zoom Meeting as their learning medium. Both this section is divided in some question as follows:

1. The Strengths of Using Zoom Meeting as a Learning Medium

- a) Students' improvement of their listening skills during the online class through Zoom Meeting

The effect of Zoom apps in learning English during online learning is that their listening skills increase during the use of Zoom Meetings, because; First, they can hear clearly the explanation from their lecturer. Second, during the use of the Zoom apps, conversations often occur between students and their lecturers. Discussing the subject matter made an increase in their listening skills, This is in accordance with the statement by C. Wang and L. Winstead (2016:253) that video conferencing contributes to the improvement of students' listening skills and speaking skills.

- b) Students' improvement of their speaking skills during the online class through Zoom Meeting

The results of research, researchers can find out that; first, speaking skills by using Zoom apps as a medium of learning to improve their speaking skills because during the learning process a lot of discussions took place using English, so that students' speaking skills increased slightly. second, good feedback from lecturers makes students able to actively speak English. Third, presentations made by students during learning can also improve students' speaking skills. The question and answer

session also plays a role in motivating and encouraging students to actively develop their speaking skills.

c) As a learning media

Zoom Meeting is a good media solution in online learning, because there are many useful features of Zoom Meeting to hold direct learning in different places. The share screen feature is also very helpful in presentations, the presenter does not need to provide heavy equipment, this is in accordance with the statement of Derar Serhan (2020: 349) that another thing is the provision of quality information and clear explanations during the learning process, namely the provision of screen sharing that makes it easier to explain the subject matter.

d) The convenience of Zoom Meetings in presentations and discussions

The use of Zoom Meeting makes it easy for users to make presentations and discussions because of its easily accessible features. According to students, the features in Zoom Meeting are complete to make it easier for them to make presentations. This is in accordance with what Erito (2021) stated that using Zoom Cloud Meeting can help students and educators build their knowledge and using it can make lessons more interesting and effective.

2. Student Obstacles Using Zoom Meeting as a Learning Medium

a) Students' reflections about their understanding in study material in synchronous learning using Zoom Meeting

Researchers find out the cause that, first, there are some materials that are difficult to understand if explained using Zoom Meeting, this is in accordance with what Nina Fauziyah (2021:1) states that some disadvantages of the Zoom apps was found that students sometimes didn't understand teacher's explanation because the material and the explanation is unclear. Second, students consider that learning should not only explain or provide theory but also provide direct practice so that students can understand the subject matter being taught. Third, students can understand the explanation if it is answered completely, while questions that are not answered completely require the lecturer to create or open the Zoom application again

b) Students' reflections about the way the teacher teaching during online class.

Researchers can find out that; First, the explanation by the lecturer is sometimes convoluted so that students take a long time to understand the material. Second, students said that the teaching method was good, but some did not, because they ignored students who did not understand the subject matter. Third, sometimes teaching is done in a hurry in explaining so that the concentration of learning becomes disturbed.

- c) Students' interpretation of the material they get for taking English online learning through Zoom

Researchers can find out that; First, there is material that is difficult for them to understand using only the Zoom apps. Second, at the time of presentation of the subject matter they did not really understand the material they were presenting. Third, the problem with using the free time provided by the Zoom apps is that the explanation of the subject matter is done quickly. Fourth, not all lecturers clearly explain the subject matter so that students find it difficult to interpret the subject matter. Fifth, the obstacle for students to obtain the information that has been presented by the lecturer is also due to the problem of an unstable internet network.

- d) Students' improvement of their reading skills during the online class through Zoom Meeting

Researchers can find out that; First, online learning using Zoom apps does not really improve their reading skills because learning is mostly done through discussion and rarely trains their reading skills. Second, there is rarely any training to improve reading skills because when online learning through Zoom apps is rarely read, most of what is done during learning is listening and speaking skills so that reading skills do not increase too much.

- e) Students' interaction with the teacher during online class through Zoom Meeting

Researchers can find out that; first, the use of Zoom Meetings during learning is considered ineffective and inefficient due to inadequate internet network problems caused by certain problems. Second, based on experiences that have been experienced during online learning using Zoom Meetings, there are lecturers who do not provide explanations about the subject matter they teach. On the other hand, the lack of

detailed information obtained by students and students do not know whether what he conveyed in the discussion is correct or not.

f) The lecturer's participation in online learning through Zoom Meeting

There were several things that happened which were a shortage of lecturers during learning with Zoom apps, namely: first, based on student recognition, there were lecturers who could not always or were not active. participate in learning. Sometimes lecturers only give assignments to students without any guidance for lessons because of other activities they have, as a result, students' interest in learning is reduced and they do not understand the subject matter.

g) The student's participation in online learning through Zoom Meeting

Researchers can find out that; first, in using Zoom Meeting as an online learning medium, students do not always participate in their learning because there are a lot of voices from students when they want to ask questions and often the clearest voice is chosen to answer the question. Second, the limitation of the free Zoom Meeting makes the explanation given by the lecturer accelerated too, this causes problems such as asking students about explanations that they do not understand. Third, the discussion of subject matter conducted by the group was slightly hampered because they could not interact directly freely with their fellow group mates. Fourth, learning using Zoom Meetings must use a good internet signal so that the learning process runs smoothly.

CONCLUSIONS

The researcher found that Zoom Meetings have some benefits to develop the English skills of the students, namely that students' listening skills increase because they can hear clearly and often do it. Students' speaking skills also increase due to frequent discussions, good feedback from lecturers and frequent presentations. In addition, Zoom Meeting is the best online learning media solution because of the many features that make it easy to do learning. Makes it easy to make presentations and discussions because of the share screen feature and good audio visuals from Zoom Meeting. Zoom Meeting makes it easy to manage lesson hours and makes it easier to hold lessons anywhere.

The researcher found that Zoom Meeting also has some weaknesses in its use as a learning medium to develop the English skills of the students, namely some of the lessons conducted at the Zoom Meeting cannot be understood by students because there are some materials that are difficult to understand if only explained, there is no direct practice related to lessons, questions that are not answered completely and sometimes lecturers are in a hurry to teach. There are some lecturers who don't teach well because their explanations are complicated, ignore students who don't understand, demands to add other information that students think are difficult and the provision of information is sometimes rushed. they do not really understand the content of the presentation of learning materials, the limited time for free use of the application and an unstable internet network. Students' reading skills do not increase because the learning process often conducts discussions without increasing reading skills. Zoom Meetings are not very easy to interact with because of the hubbub in the question-and-answer session, interaction only during the question-and-answer session, lack of guidance from lecturers and poor internet connection. Zoom Meeting does not make learning more effective and efficient because of poor internet connection and lack of tutoring. A small number of lecturers do not actively participate because sometimes they are not always active in guiding students. Students are not very active in participating in learning because of the noise in the question-and-answer session.

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