EFL Students' Perception Toward The Use Of E-learning Platform as an Effective Tool

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ABSTRACT

An online class is a form of learning media that uses the internet, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. E-learning is a platform that utilizes information and communication technology to facilitate learning, whether traditional, online, or hybrid, through the application of digital technology. This study examines the perceptions of English Education Department students at the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang regarding the use of the E-learning platform developed by the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in the IT for ELT course. The number of respondents in this study was 21 students of English Education at the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang who were taking IT for ELT courses in the sixth semester. Meanwhile, this study uses a qualitative method that focuses on case studies. The results of this study indicate that students majoring in English education have a positive perception of the E-learning platform at the State Islamic University Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang as a learning tool in the IT for ELT course.

Keywords: Students' perception, E-learning, Effective learning tool.

INTRODUCTION

Education has been profoundly impacted by the Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19) epidemic that has affected practically the whole globe, including Indonesia. Since the emergence of this virus at the beginning of March 2020, the government of the Republic of Indonesia expects that virtual learning or active classes will continue. Educators must therefore be able to develop innovative learning through the use of online learning media that integrates technology into the education sector.

Online Education, including student engagement, connectivity, community growth, and better access to information. Learning a foreign language like English requires a particular way because it relates to language skills. Only conveying theory is not enough. Reading ability, speaking ability, writing ability, and listening ability require a unique approach applied effectively(Creswell & Garrett, 2008).

E-learning is one platform that utilizes information and communication technology to facilitate learning, whether traditional, online or hybrid, through digital technology applications (Berridge & Waterhouse, 2003). One of the benefits of E-learning is that it simplifies communication between educators and students.

Educators may offer E-learning by giving resources for students to study and further study. E-learning is one of the most extensively used forms of digital learning. Technological learning or learning helped by computer-based gadgets and internet. E-learning gives students the space and opportunity to learn creatively and actively while actively understanding the instructional material (Kelly et al., 2006) The term "e" or electronic abbreviation in E-learning, is used for all internet electronic technology.

In this pandemic era, educators can conduct learning in numerous systems, such as Edmodo, Moodle, and Schoology, which connect remote learning to online education. In addition to these platforms, the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang has built one of its own: E-learning of State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang platforms. The E-learning developed for State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang uses the Moodle platform. Moodle is a Learning Management System platform widely used in various educational institutions at national and international levels. The Moodle license is free and has an open-source (free & open sources), so it can be freely developed according to the institution's needs. When this guide was made, the Moodle system used was version 3.6, where there were several changes (added features) compared to previous versions.

It is ensured that all students access the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang's E-learning platform through security measures. Sharing information between users via synchronous mechanisms (chat) and asynchronous communication on this platform (discussion forums) is possible. The State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang's E-learning contains content relevant to the learning objectives. It is delivered through instructional methods such as presenting examples and exercises and exciting elements such as words and pictures to convey learning material. Furthermore, it can help individuals and groups better grasp talents linked to the learning objectives. Concerning its functionalities, it is simple to configure features, create student assessment processes (such as quizzes or tests) and manage their assignments following the course calendar. It also includes various complementary tools to assist in teaching and learning.

Furthermore the use of E-learning as an effective learning tool in IT for ELT course. The IT for ELT course is one of the subjects studied by the sixth-semester students of the English Education Department at the State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. This introductory course allows students to explore relevant technology-Aided Language Learning theories, principles, and models through reading, discussion, demonstration, and learning environments. This course covers various media types and skills for selecting, developing, operating, and evaluating learning materials and environments in various EFL teaching and learning contexts.

METHOD

In this study, researcher used a qualitative approach. (Sakkir & Dollah, 2019) argues that the qualitative research method is a strategy for examining and interpreting a central phenomenon. Meanwhile, the researchers also used the case study method in this study. A case study is a technique of research that analyzes a phenomenon in depth in relation to the surrounding environment, institutions, and society. A case study is an empirical research undertaken inside a constrained boundary of place and

time into fascinating elements of educational activity, system, institution, or program, especially in its natural setting and within ethics of respect for persons, in educational terms (Chhetri, 2011).

Meanwhile, the researcher will provide a questionnaire. The researcher classified students' attitudes toward E-learning as an effective tool. The categories are students' behavior when they use e-learning platform in IT for ELT course, students' impressions of how E-learning works, and students' perceptions of IT for ELT practice when they use E-learning. The research subjects are the sixth-semester students of the English education department students at Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang State Islamic University. In conducting interviews, the researcher will focus on interviewing some students in the sixth semester. Researcher have prepared questions as a guide to determine student perceptions regarding the use of E-learning in ELT for ELT course. For the interview, the researcher used 5 question guides to determine the types of learning rewards.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. **Questionnaire students' perception of reward to increase students' motivation in English learning**

ASPECT	SD (%)	D (%)	N (%)	A (%)	SA (%)
E-learning affords me time to explore learning source	0%	4.8%	19%	42.9%	33.3%
E-learning enhances my learning motivation	0%	14.3%	38,1%	38.1%	9.5%
E-learning helps me to be more independent in my learning	0%	0%	0%	61.9%	38.1%
E-learning increases my confidence in articulating my thoughts and opinions	5%	10%	5%	45%	35%
E-learning enhances the enjoyment of learning	5%	5%	20%	35%	35%
E-learning enhances my interactions with friends and the teacher	14.3%	19%	38.1%	23.8%	4.8%
My discipline is improved through online tasks	4.8%	14.3%	33.3%	38.1%	9.5%

The first question showed that 33.3% of students chose to strongly agree. Most of the students, 42.9%, chose to agree with the statement, and 19% of them were neutral. The remaining 4.8% of students chose to disagree, and none of them chose to strongly disagree with the statement. Thus, it shows that E-learning gives students plenty of time to explore learning resources.

In the second statement students who chose agree and neutral had the same percentage of 38.1% each. The third statement is that E-learning helps students to become more independent in learning. The results of the questionnaire stated that 61.9% of students chose to agree and 38.1% of students chose strongly agree.

The fourth statement showed that most of them choose neutral, namely 38.1%, 23.8% of students choose to agree and only 4.8% choose strongly agree, the rest choose 19% to disagree, and 14.3% choose strongly disagree. It can be concluded that E-learning is in the midst of increasing interaction between students and teachers.

The last statement showed that 9.5% of them chose strongly agree, and the most that were 38.1% chose to agree, 33.3% of students were neutral, 14.3% of students chose to disagree, and the remaining 4.8% of students chose strongly disagree. In conclusion, students' discipline increases when they are given online tasks.

2. Students' Perceptions about E-learning Operational

ASPECT	SD (%)	D (%)	N (%)	A (%)	SA (%)
I have the capability to access the module	0%	0%	9.5%	57.1%	33.3%
I am able to access the online resources	0%	0%	14.3%	38.1%	47.6%
I am able to view the online resources provided by the teacher	0%	0%	9.5%	47.6%	42.9%
The teacher's online instructions are easy to understand	4.8%	4.8%	19%	42.9%	28.6%
E-learning spends cost a lot	33.3%	19%	23.8%	19%	4.8%
My Internet connection is problematic	4.8%	14.3%	57.1%	19%	4.8%

The second questionnaire category is about operational E-learning. The first statement 9.5% chose to agree, the most are 57.1% stood to agree, and 33.3% of students claimed strongly agree. The third statement showed. 42.9% chose strongly agree, and the majority chose to agree, which is 47.6%, and the remaining 9.5% chose neutral. This shows that most students are indeed able to access the resources provided by the teacher.

The next statement about E-learning spends costs a lot. As seen in the data above, the results were most of the students 33.3% strongly disagreed with this statement, 19% chose to disagree, 23.8% stood for neutral, 19% chose to agree, and

the remaining 4.8% chose strongly agree. It can be concluded that E-learning does not spend cost a lot.

3. The Students' Perceptions in Practicing IT for ELT Course

ASPECT	SD (%)	D (%)	N (%)	A (%)	SA (%)
I enjoy doing assignments using the E-Learning	9.5%	4.8%	9.5%	42.9%	33.3%
I feel comfortable doing assignments using E-learning	0%	9.5%	14.3%	42.9%	33.3%
I like the learning process through E-learning	4.8%	9.5%	33.3%	33.3%	19%
I'm confused learning IT for ELT through E-learning	14.3%	38.1%	28.6%	9.5%	9.5%
I like to use E-Learning in IT for ELT course	4.8%	14.3%	9.5%	47.6%	23.8%

The first shown in the data above, most of the students 42.9% chose to agree 33.3% claimed strongly agree, 9.5% stood for neutral, 4.8% chose to disagree, and the remaining 9.5% chose strongly disagree. It can be concluded that on average, students feel enjoy doing their assignments using E-learning. Most of the students 42.9% chose to agree, 33.3% chose to strongly agree.

In the third statement, 33.3% of students believed agree, and also 33.3% chose to be neutral. The fourth statemen, 14.3% chose strongly disagree and most of the students 38.1% chose disagree, 28.6% chose neutral and 9.5% chose to agree. The conclusion means that students do not feel confused about using E-learning in learning. The last statement is about whether students like using E-learning in the IT for ELT course. It can be concluded that on average students like to use E-learning in the IT for ELT course.

1. The Perceptions of EFL Students Toward The Use of E-learning

Based on the results of the study, in the first part the researcher discusses students' perceptions using E-learning. In the questionnaire results, more than half of the students gave positive responses to using E-learning. Furthermore, in the interviews section, researchers found correspondent thought that students feel enjoy and comfortable the online learning process using E-learning because it is easy to access and great flexibility.

2. Effect of Adopting in IT for ELT course

The data showed that the students like learning process in IT for ELT through E-learning, they also feel comfortable doing the assignment. the researcher found that students also like using E-learning in IT for ELT course. as F4 said, she like using E-learning in IT for ELT, because that course has many instructions from the lecturer about doing projects at every meeting, so the students need the E-learning to see the instruction anytime. More than half of the correspondents agree that E-learning at State Islamic University of Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang can help the students understand easily the material that has been provided, and they can also repeat the material by opening E-learning again.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings the results of the questionnaire and interviews indicate that English Education Department students at Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang State Islamic University have a favorable perspective of E-use learning's in the IT for ELT course. They believe it is a great tool for learning in the course.

Where E-learning can boost their learning motivation and make them more independent in learning due to the availability of several sources and learning instructions, the discussion forum enables students to express their viewpoints with greater assurance. In addition, students are more disciplined in completing assignments because the due date structure in E-learning prevents them from submitting tasks if they are late.

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