Students' Perceptions on the Implementation of Online Learning at a State High School in Yogyakarta

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ABSTRACT

Introduction - Since Covid-19 has spread to Indonesia, the teaching and learning process is carried out online. During the implementation of online teaching and learning process, students faced challenges.

The researcher also presents the research questions and objectives of the research. The benefits of the research for the teachers, the students, other researchers and the institution are provided in the section of significance of the study. Then, the researcher presents the organization of the chapters.

Purpose - This research aimed to find out students' challenges and strategies when doing online learning.

Methodology - The researcher used a descriptive qualitative design. The researcher used interview as the data collection technique and interview guideline as the instrument of the research.

Findings - There are eight challenges faced by the students, namely the unexplained materials, lack effective interaction between the students and the teacher, the inappropriate teacher's time management, bad internet connection, the teachers' unavailability to respond the students' questions, incompetent teachers on online application, uncooperative and passive peer students, and difficulty in discussing in group work. Meanwhile, the strategies used by the students to overcome challenges when doing online learning included first by joining private course and looking for other sources, second by requesting additional time, third by prepared collaboration with friends, fourth by providing feedback and suggestions for the teachers, fifth by coordinating group members and being more active.

Originality - In the application of online learning in the teaching and learning process, there are challenges that must be faced by students. The aims of this study is the researcher believe the students' perceptions are very important in ensuring the quality of learning process, as the students are the most important subject who are affected by the implementation of online learning.

Keywords: Students' perceptions, challenges, strategies, online learning

INTRODUCTION

Background of the study- Since Covid-19 has spread to Indonesia, all sectors including education sectors such as schools, university and educational institutions have implemented online learning policies to ensure student learning processes. Online learning during the pandemic has been carried out by all schools including senior high schools in Indonesia. Because many schools rarely implement online learning before, the obstacles during the implementation are likely to happen.

Problem statement- It turned out that students had not been able to participate in online learning optimally and well. This is indicated by the poor performance scores of students or decreasing grades. Another problem that often arises is the lack of students' understanding of the material provided through online learning. In addition, the issue of the internet which does not always support the teaching and learning process still caused the challenges. All challenges faced by the students should be overcome to make online learning run effectively and efficiently like learning in ordinary class. In encountering the challenges, the suitable strategies are needed. The strategies are various and usually depend on the students' preference and learning styles.

Purpose- This research concerns on the implementation of the online learning at one of high schools in Yogyakarta. The research focuses on the challenges faced by students when doing online learning and the strategies are carried out by students when facing problems that occur when doing online learning. The data will be based on the students' perception on their experience in using online learning. The research will also be limited in terms of applying qualitative approach.

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Research questions-

(1) What are the senior high school students' challenges in doing online learning?

(2) What are the senior high school students' strategies to overcome the challenges in online learning?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous study - Gilbert (2015) the study was conducted in a small rural school district. This study focuses on online learning Revealing the Benefits and Challenges. This study data uses qualitative observation and interviews. Interviews were conducted with 8 students from 230 students who were observed. The interview used an open-ended interview. The results of this study showed that the implementation of online learning has challenges in the form of being hampered by the constraints of electricity costs at school. 3 other students said that it was difficult to get internet access when they were at home to do online classes.

Meanwhile, Francois (2020) stated that online learning is a term used to describe distance or correspondence courses offered over the Internet. This educational method is growing in popularity as a cost-effective method of providing access to education for large populations. The courses offered through online learning cover a wide range of subjects, audiences, and prices. Richards (2020) stated that existing technology at this time has enabled students to learn directly through technology.

Theoretical Framework

As the previous study focus on the teachers' role and challenges, the research provided recommendation for teachers without involving the students' opinion. However, this present study will provide challenges and strategies dealing with online learning based on the students' experiences. Therefore, the teachers will get information on what students felt or perceived so that they can adjust themselves to provide the success of the online learning process. From the similarity of the research topics, the researcher can take several references as the basis for the research. Meanwhile, the differences in these studies will make this study provide more detailed information on the same topic with different focuses.

METHOD

This research used qualitative approach, to get detailed and deep information on the challenges and strategies in online learning. This research conducted at a state senior high school in Yogyakarta. The participants of this research are six students, the XIth grade students were chosen because they have experienced using online learning for three semesters. The researcher used interview guideline as the instrument of the research. The researcher used open-ended question in the interview. In analyzing qualitative data, there are some stages used by the researcher. The next step after conducting the interview is transcribing the data from the recording. After transcribing the data into a written form, then the researcher does member checking to make sure and check whether the data obtained from participants is accurate, clear or not and whether the data include all aspects of the question.

RESULT AND DISUSSION

Based on the findings in the interview data, this research find out eight challenges raised by the students. They are unexplained materials, lack effective interaction, the inappropriate teacher's time management, bad internet connection, the teachers' unavailability to respond the students' questions, incompetent teachers on online application, uncooperative and passive peer students, and difficulty in discussing in group work. In addition, there are five strategies used by the students they are based on the findings in the interview data, there are some strategies that the students applied during the online learning. the strategies used by the students to overcome challenges when doing online learning included first by joining private course and looking for other sources, second by requesting additional time, third by prepared collaborating with friends, fourth by providing feedback and suggestions for the teachers, fifth by coordinating group members and being more active.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of online learning has raised challenges for the students, and therefore they must have a strategy to overcome the challenges. The aims of this study is the researcher believe the students' perceptions are very important in ensuring the quality of learning process, as the students are the most important subject who are affected by the implementation of online learning. Based on the findings in the interview data, this research find out eight challenges raised by the students. They are unexplained materials, lack effective interaction, the inappropriate teacher's time management, and bad internet connection, the teachers' unavailability to respond the students' questions, incompetent teachers on online application,

uncooperative and passive peer students, and difficulty in discussing in group work.

The implementation of online has another challenges, sometimes the teacher is often angry when someone asks for a re-explanation because the teacher feels the students already understand the material that has been given or the teacher did not respond at all. And the third participant said that some teachers were less competent in knowing the applications used for online learning, so there was often a miss communication between students and teachers when doing assignments or when giving tests.

In addition, there are five strategies used by the students they are based on the findings in the interview data, there are some strategies that the students applied during the online learning. the strategies used by the students to overcome challenges when doing online learning included first by joining private course and looking for other sources, second by requesting additional time, third by prepared collaborating with friends, fourth by providing feedback and suggestions for the teachers, fifth by coordinating group members and being more active.

RECOMMENDATION

For Teacher- The teachers are suggested to be more competent in online learning applications to make it easier for them to do the online learning process. In addition, the teachers are suggested to be more aware of the importance of maintaining communication with students and asking students to provide an evaluation of the way of teaching, the materials presented, the difficulties that the students experience during the online learning process.

For Student- The students are suggested to be more active in group work, being passive does not help complete the task. The students can form discussion groups to exchange opinions or ask questions about materials that are difficult to understand in their preferred ways. It can make students more active.

For next Researcher - The researchers of this study recommends other researchers to conduct a similar topic with different research approach, such as using quantitative approach or mixed method. The researcher suggested that they get wider different setting and further develop this research specifically and make this research to be more depth.

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