

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

English is the second international language after Indonesian. English is no longer foreign to us to use in everyday life, not a few people can speak and communicate using English in their daily activities.

In today's technological era, English is often found in electronic devices to make it easier for anyone to understand the language, because English is an international language. In Indonesia, adaptation to the presence of English has begun to be accepted by making English one of the basic subjects in the education system. In fact, recently English has been used as one of the important subjects tested through official state tests.

Several studies have shown that learning English online also influences the grades obtained by students. In addition, “copy-pasting in learning writing and reading still occurs, causing the possibility that the assessment results will not be very valid if a more comprehensive assessment of the competency being studied is carried out”¹.

Online learning is not the same as learning in general, because the teacher can directly control the activities carried out by students. At present, teachers have difficulty managing and controlling students to remain conducive in English learning activities. Before students take online learning, they follow rules, such as they have to log in to access online learning. Students prepare to take part in online learning, such as preparing their time, energy and thoughts. When students' express boredom, this is thought to cause learning failure. However, in this study, online learning refers to

¹ Dhana. "Evaluation of Web-Based Transportation English Online Learning Using Google Sites during a Pandemic." *Journal of Maritime Science*, Volume 23 Number 1. (2022)

teaching and learning activities carried out using programs, such as Zoom Cloud Meeting, Google Classroom, and various other applications that can use mobile devices, laptops, or computers at home access via the internet.

The attitude of students plays an important role in supporting the success of learning. Attitude has a strong influence on behavior and will become a habit that is formed in a person. “There are many assumptions that there is a positive relationship between attitudes and learning. In other words, that students who have a positive attitude towards certain subjects tend to study more diligently so as to achieve satisfactory results”.² Attitude factors create conditions or teaching and learning situations that are pleasant or unpleasant, not only for students but also as teachers so as to allow high or low effectiveness in the ongoing learning process.

In previous studies, the problems discussed in the study were how good a student's learning attitude was during the covid-19 at *Senior High School in Barus District*. The results showed of the interview it can be concluded that the students' attitude is not less, because the students are not disciplined at home, students are late to follow learning, and students are late to collect assignments.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in making observations and knowing which students' attitudes are in online English learning activities in second-grade Dewi Kunti-1 Middle School that cause the students in online English learning activities feel very bored, feel difficult. The researcher believes that students attitudes towards online English learning activities tend not to be conducive, so here it is very important to analyze the students' attitude towards online English

² Ahmet Kara, "The Effect of A Learning Theories Unit On Students' Attitudes Toward Learning". *Australian Journal of Teacher Education*, Vol. 34 No. 3 (June, 2009)

learning. Students' attitude in online learning activities are very influential on the behavior and formation of students' habits. A good learning attitude is one of most important things that every students' should have. Therefore, the researcher took the title "Students' Attitude Towards Blended English Learning Activities".

B. Research Question

The research about analysis Students' Attitudes Toward Blended English Learning Activities. Based on the background of the study above, the problem of study as below:

1. What is the students' attitude toward blended English learning activities at Dewi Kunti-1 Junior High School?
2. What are the obstacles and solutions the teacher when the process of blended English learning activities at Dewi Kunti-1 Junior High School?

C. Limitation of The Problem

This study discusses students' attitude toward blended English learning activities in second-grade students of Dewi Kunti-1 Junior High School. In summary, this study wants to look at the phenomena that cause positive or negative students' attitudes toward participation in online English learning activities. With the limitation that researcher have, this research only focuses on the perspective of teachers and students regarding attitudes than can cause students to participate in online English learning activities.

D. The Objective of The Study

1. To find out the students' attitude toward blended English learning activities at Dewi Kunti-1 High School.

2. To find out the obstacles and solutions when the process of blended English learning activities at Dewi Kunti-1 Junior High School.

E. Significant of The Study

This research is expected to be helpful in English education, not only for the writer but also for educators, including:

1. For Students

This research can be useful as input for increasing knowledge about students' attitude toward online English learning activities at Junior High School.

2. For Teachers

The researcher hopes can be implementation an online learning model that can make efficient the learning process and help facilitate students to improve learning outcomes.

3. Others research

This research can be a valid reference that discusses about how is students' attitudes toward online learning. Particularly for the English learning activities.

F. Previous Study

“Evaluation of Web-Based Transportation English Online Learning Using Google Sites during a Pandemic”. The purpose of this study was to evaluate online learning English for Transportation through the Google site media which was applied to Undergraduate Students of the Department of Transportation, AMNI Maritime University Semarang. Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2020 concerning Learning Process Standards. This research is an evaluation of research with

the Countenance Stake model by using observation data collection, interviews and documentation.³

“The Effectiveness of Online-Based Learning: An Evidence on Learning English”. This study describe the effectiveness of online-based learning on the students’ ability to understand English-language texts. The online learning used in this study is learning that utilizes the use of web blogs. This article is a part of the report of a classroom action research which focuses on identifying the effectiveness of the online-based learning viewed from two approaches, namely the comparison of data distribution and t-test on the data before the treatments(pretest) and after the treatments (posttest). The results of the study show that there are differences in students' ability to understand English texts before and after the use of the web blogs. In this case, online learning assisted by the web blog has a positive influence on improving students' English reading skills.⁴

“Strategies for Teaching English in Online Classes Over Time The Covid-19 Pandemic at F. Tandean Tebing Tinggi Private Middle School”. It is a challenge for English teachers to be able to effectively transfer lessons that are usually taught directly in class but now have to be taught online due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The challenge of explaining English with a disconnect between teaching methods and how the content should be taught is part of a teaching strategy that should be prepared properly so that learning objectives can be achieved. This study is qualitative research aims to find out English teaching strategy performed by English teachers in online learning during pandemic Covid-19 at SMP Swasta F. Tandean Tebing Tinggi and their challenges during online teaching. Two English teachers contributed as the

³ Dhana, ”Evaluation of Web-Based Transportation English Online Learning Using Google Sites during a Pandemic.” *Journal of Maritime Science*, Volume 23 Number 1. (2022)

⁴ Yari Dwikurnaningsih, Marinu Waruwu, “The Effectiveness of Online-Based Learning: An Evidence on Learning English” *Journal of Educational Thought and Research*, Vol. 5 No 4. (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.23887/jet.v5i4.35337>

subject of the study. Obtained the data using observation, documentation, interview. Meanwhile, the data was analyzed through the following steps; coding data, reducing data, presenting data and drawing conclusions. It was found that the teachers used vary teaching strategies depending on the language skills to be achieved, they use videos uploaded to YouTube in conveying the material and utilize the WhatsApp group, and Zoom as a communication medium and google classroom as a place to collect assignments. Lack of student motivation and the internet connection were the challenges that teachers often complained.⁵

From those of previous study above, the similarities of the first and second previous study with the writer's study is talking about students attitude toward online English learning activities that is mean the students excited with online English learning. The difference from the first previous study focused on Undergraduate Students, which also focused on the learning process through the Google site. Meanwhile, the researchers focused on students in junior high school. The difference from the second previous studies is that it focused on students' ability to understand English texts before and after they used the website, where the website produced positive results in students improving their English reading skills. The difference third previous studies is focus on students' speaking and reading during online learning.

⁵ Susiana Kaban dan Ahmad Amin Dalimunte,. "Strategi Mengajar Bahasa Inggris pada Kelas Daring Selama Masa Pandemi Covid-19 di SMP Swasta F. Tandean Tebing Tinggi." *Silampari Bisa: Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Bahasa Indonesia, Daerah, dan Asing*, Vol. 5 No. 1. (2022), 177-178