

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Lately it has been revealed that the government has determined English as local content, whereas previously it was mandatory content at the elementary school level. It is an impact of curriculum changing from previous curriculum into Merdeka Curriculum.¹ Some elementary schools may still use English in their subjects, but many elementary schools have eliminated it. This has become a challenge for English teachers at the junior high school level. This causes difficulties for English teachers because many new students in the seventh grade lack basic English knowledge.

In response to this, English academics and practitioners should be more motivated to upgrade their knowledge and innovate to deal with problems that arise.² They need to find creative and effective new ways of teaching English to students at the junior high school level.

¹ Raveenthiran Vivekanantharasa, Abdul Rahim Saidek, and Heru Setiawan, "Curriculum for Elementary Schools in The Merdeka Curriculum," *EJIP: Educational Journal of Innovation and Publication*, Vol I, No. 2, (September, 2022), 88.

² Raveenthiran Vivekanantharasa, Abdul Rahim Saidek, and Heru Setiawan, "Curriculum for Elementary Schools," ..., 88.

Nowadays, entering 5.0 era, also known as society era where humans and technology live side by side. In this era the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in learning can be an effective solution. The use of ICT in education has greatly improved students' academic outcomes.³ Additionally, ICT has made it possible for individuals to access and learn about a variety of resources outside of the classroom.⁴ One of the benefits of adopting ICT is being able to support the process of creating a dynamic teaching and learning environment.⁵

Electronic module is one of the ICT products designed to stimulate interest in learning and can help students visualize abstract concepts. It can be easily accessed by students using computers and other devices anytime and anywhere, giving them the opportunity to receive immediate feedback and fully comprehend the material.⁶

³ Kashif Ishaq, Nor Azan Mat Zin, Fadhilah Rosdi, and Adnan Abid, "The Impact of ICT on Students' Academic Performance in Public Private Sector Universities of Pakistan," *International Journal of Innovative Technology and Exploring Engineering*, Vol. IX, No. 3, (January, 2020), 1121.

⁴ Simin Ghavifekr et al., "ICT Integration in Education: Incorporation for Teaching & Learning Improvement," *Malaysian Online Journal of Educational Technology*, Vol. II, No. 2, (2014), 26.

⁵ Majlinda Gjellaj, Kastriot Buza, Kyvete Shatri, and Naser Zabeli, "Digital Technologies in Early Childhood: Attitudes and Practices of Parents and Teachers in Kosovo," *International Journal of Instruction*, Vol. XIII, No. 1 (January, 2020), 167.

⁶ Sri Saraswati, Roza Linda, and Herdini, "Development of Interactive E-Module Chemistry Magazine Based on Kvisoft Flipbook Maker for Thermochemistry Materials at Second Grade Senior High School," *Journal of Science Learning*, Vol. III, No. 1 (November, 2019), 1.

Based on the interview with the English teachers of SMPN 2 Warunggunung, it was found that many seventh-grade students struggle with their basic English skills because of the lack of English lessons during their elementary school education. The teacher finds it challenging to address this issue, especially given the time constraints that would arise from needing to cover all the elementary school English material. In addition, the use of learning media and ICT is still limited in teaching and learning activities.

Therefore, the researcher is interested in developing an interactive e-module based on Heyzine Flipbook as a companion medium for student learning that can be accessed anytime and anywhere. The E-module, which contains basic English material as introductory material for the seventh-grade students, is an adaptation and modification of material in students' English textbooks entitled *English for Nusantara untuk SMP/MTs Kelas VII*. The e-module will contain audios, videos, pictures, and online quizzes.

Several studies have been carried out to explore the development of interactive e-modules across various fields of science and educational levels. The first study, conducted by Sri Saraswati, Roza Linda, and Herdini in 2019, aimed to create an interactive e-module on thermochemistry for Senior High School grade XI/MA

level. They used Kvisoft Flipbook Maker as a tool for developing a chemistry magazine-based teaching material.⁷ In the second study, Daud et al. in 2022 focused on developing an interactive e-module for the English Structure course to enhance digital learning in the English Study Program at Universitas Riau, Indonesia.⁸ The third study, conducted by Novia et al. in 2021, examined the impact of using an E-Module based on mobile learning as an interactive teaching media for English. The study aimed to assess the improvement in students' motivation and English language proficiency.⁹ Generally, from the results of the studies stated that e-modules (especially interactive e-modules create a positive impact on the learning environment, which is indicated by the appropriateness of the media and student responses which the majority rate good and are proven to improve performance in teaching and learning.

There have been many studies discussing the development of the e-module as an interactive teaching and learning media. However, the previous studies had different focus subjects and education levels,

⁷ Sri Saraswati, Roza Linda, and Herdini, "Development of Interactive E-Module Chemistry Magazine," ..., 1.

⁸ Afrianto Daud, Upriusman, Rozalinda, Zaldi Harfal, Ade Suryani, Ovia Nabilla, and Zahrah Thahirah, "The Development of Interactive E-Module Using Flipbookmaker for English Structure Learning at an Indonesian University," *Ta'dib*, Vol. XXV, No. 2 (December, 2022), 160.

⁹ Yosa Novia, Yenni Rozimela, and M. Zaim, "Developing E-Modul Based Mobile Learning as an Interactive Media," *International Conference on Research and Development (ICORAD)*, Vol. I, No. 1 (March, 2021), 132.

and they also used different flipbook makers from this research and development. The development of an interactive e-module using Heyzine Flipbook for English teaching and learning remains relatively unexplored.

Therefore, to fill this gap, the researcher is interested in developing an interactive e-module based on Heyzine Flipbook as an English teaching and learning media. This research and development entitled “Developing Interactive E-Module Based on Heyzine Flipbook for the Seventh Grade Students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung”.

B. Identification of Problem

From the research background above, the identification of the problems is:

1. Lack of mastery of basic English is due to the absence of English lessons at the elementary school level.
2. Minimal use of various learning media.
3. Teaching materials in the form of e-modules have not been developed by the teachers.

C. Scope and Limitation of Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, the researcher provided scope and limitation of problem, which include:

1. The scope of research is the development of e-modules based on Heyzine Flipbook.
2. The study on this e-module focuses on the adaptation and modification of Chapter 0 of *English for Nusantara untuk SMP/MTs Kelas VII* as an introductory material for the seventh-grade students.

D. Formulation of Problem

Based on the above description about the background of the problem, the identification of problem, and the limitation of problem, the researcher formulates the following problem statement:

1. How to develop interactive e-module on Chapter 0 of English for Nusantara by using Heyzine Flipbook for the seventh-grade students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung?
2. What is the feasibility of the interactive e-module on Chapter 0 of English for Nusantara by using Heyzine Flipbook for the seventh-grade students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung?

E. The Objective of Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, this study aims:

1. To develop an interactive e-module on Chapter 0 of English for Nusantara by using Heyzine Flipbook for the seventh-grade students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung.
2. To validate the feasibility of the interactive e-module on Chapter 0 of English for Nusantara for the seventh-grade students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung.

F. Significance of Research

The researcher hopes that the present study will be useful in society broadly, especially for the need of teaching and learning in English education. The researcher divides the significance of the study both of theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

In theoretically, this research expands the current knowledge regarding the utilization of digital tools in language learning. The anticipated outcomes of this study are aimed at providing additional insights and knowledge that can be employed as educational resources within both at school or outside of school.

2. Practically

The results of this study are expected to be useful for:

- a. The Student

This study provides alternative learning materials that are more interesting and flexible to study.

b. The Teacher

This study provides valuable information for language teachers on the utilize of digitalization on teaching and learning and encouraging teachers to be more innovative in creating and develop teaching materials.

c. The Researcher

This study contributes to the body of knowledge on developing of an interactive e-module based on Heyzine Flipbook on Chapter 0 of *English for Nusantara untuk SMP/MTs Kelas VII*. The study can also serve as a reference for future researchers who are interested in conducting research on developing of an interactive e-module or other digital tools in language teaching and learning.

G. Specification of Product

An interactive e-module is an e-module that adds several additional features, such as audio, video, and online quiz. This interactive e-module can be accessed online via the link shared.

Based on Heyzine Flipbook, the e-module display is more interesting and creates a fun learning experience for students.

The material contained in this interactive e-module is introductory material adapted from the book *English for Nusantara untuk SMP/MTs Kelas VII* on “Chapter 0”. This material is developed for the seventh-grade students of SMPN 2 Warunggunung.

H. Writing Organization

There are five chapters in this study, each of which has several points that describe the chapter.

Chapter I, the Introduction, offers a snapshot of the research. It starts with the Background of the Study, explaining why the research is conducted. The Identification of the Problem pinpoints the issues addressed, followed by the Scope and Limitation, setting the research boundaries. Formulation of the Problem involves crafting clear problem statements, and Objectives of the Research are outlined. Significance of Research discusses the study's importance. Specification of Product details product characteristics, and Writing Organization outlines the study structure.

Chapter II Theoretical Framework, this chapter delves into the theoretical foundations relevant to the research. It begins with an exploration of the Concept of Interactive E-Module, including the

definitions of Module, E-Module, and Interactive E-Module. The section on the Concept of Heyzine Flipbook covers understanding Heyzine Flipbook and how to use it. Then, discussing the Chapter 0 of *English for Nusantara untuk SMP/MTs Kelas VII*. Additionally, there is the the Previous Study, which discusses several studies related to this study.

Then, in Chapter III Research Methodology, provides insights into the methodological aspects of the study. It outlines the Research Method, the Place and Time of Research, the Subject/Participant, the Instrument used, the Data Collection Technique, and the Data Analysis Technique employed in the research process.

Chapter IV Research Finding and Discussion, this chapter presents and analyses the research findings. It discusses the results obtained from the study and provides an in-depth analysis of these findings. The discussion section interprets the results in the context of the research questions and theoretical framework, offering insights and implications.

The last, Chapter V Closing, as the final chapter wraps up the thesis by summarizing the key findings and drawing conclusions based on the results. It also offers suggestions for further research, highlighting areas where future studies could contribute to the field.